

COUNTY OF LEHIGH OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

LEHIGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
17 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET
ALLENTOWN, PA 18101-2400
(610) 782-3082 FAX: (610) 871-2897

GLENN ECKHART COUNTY CONTROLLER

JOHN A. FALK DEPUTY CONTROLLER

October 18, 2012

Ms. Nancy Neidigh Hersha Hospitality Management, L.P. 44 Hersha Drive Harrisburg, PA 17102

Brian L. Kahler, Fiscal Officer Lehigh County Government Center 17 South Seventh Street Allentown, PA 18101-2400

RE: Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Allentown Bethlehem 2140 Motel Drive Bethlehem, PA 18018

To Ms. Neidigh and Mr. Kahler:

We have recently completed an agreed-upon procedures engagement of hotel room rental tax remitted by Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Allentown Bethlehem for the period January 1 to December 31, 2011. Our report number 12-19 is attached.

The result of our review is \$6.63 in hotel room rental tax was assessed and collected.

Glenn Eckhart County Controller

Attachment

COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL ROOM RENTAL TAX REMITTANCES FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ALLENTOWN BETHLEHEM

Independent Controller's Office Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures For the Period January 1 to December 31, 2011

COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL ROOM RENTAL TAX REMITTANCES FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ALLENTOWN BETHLEHEM

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RE: Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Allentown Bethlehem

2140 Motel Drive Bethlehem, PA 18018

To Ms. Neidigh and Mr. Kahler:

Pursuant to Act 12 of 2005, section 1770.8 to the County Code, Lehigh County Ordinance #2005-180 and the Lehigh County Hotel Room Rental Tax Rules and Regulations effective September 4, 2005, a four percent hotel room rental tax shall be collected and remitted to the Lehigh County fiscal officer. We have performed certain procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Lehigh County fiscal officer, solely to assist the county fiscal officer in determining the accuracy of hotel room rental tax remittances made by the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Allentown Bethlehem management for the period January 1 to December 31, 2011. The fiscal officer, as the delegate for the County Executive, is responsible for the collection of the hotel room rental tax.

Procedures performed included:

 Verification of reported revenue to Form PA-3 submitted to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Revenue.

NOTE: Form PA-3 was not used to verify reported revenue since consolidated returns reporting multiple locations are filed. As an alternative, we used hotel revenue reports to verify amounts.

- Compliance to the County of Lehigh Rules and Regulations for hotel room rental tax collection.
- Verification of reported revenue and hotel room rental tax collections to hotel operator accounting records.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and "Government Auditing Standards" as issued by the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) and "Statements on Standards for Attestation Engagements" as issued by the American Institute for Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures performed.

Reported taxable revenues of \$2,062,170.51 resulted in \$82,486.83 in hotel tax payable to the County of Lehigh during the period under review (before adjustments). Based on our review, additional tax and interest is due for an exemption adjustment of \$6.63.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an audit, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on hotel room rental tax collections. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the county fiscal officer and management of the County of Lehigh and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Glenn Eckhart County Controller

Attachment

October 2, 2012 Allentown, Pennsylvania

<u>Final Distribution</u>
Board of Commissioners
William H. Hansell, County Executive
General Manager, Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Allentown Bethlehem