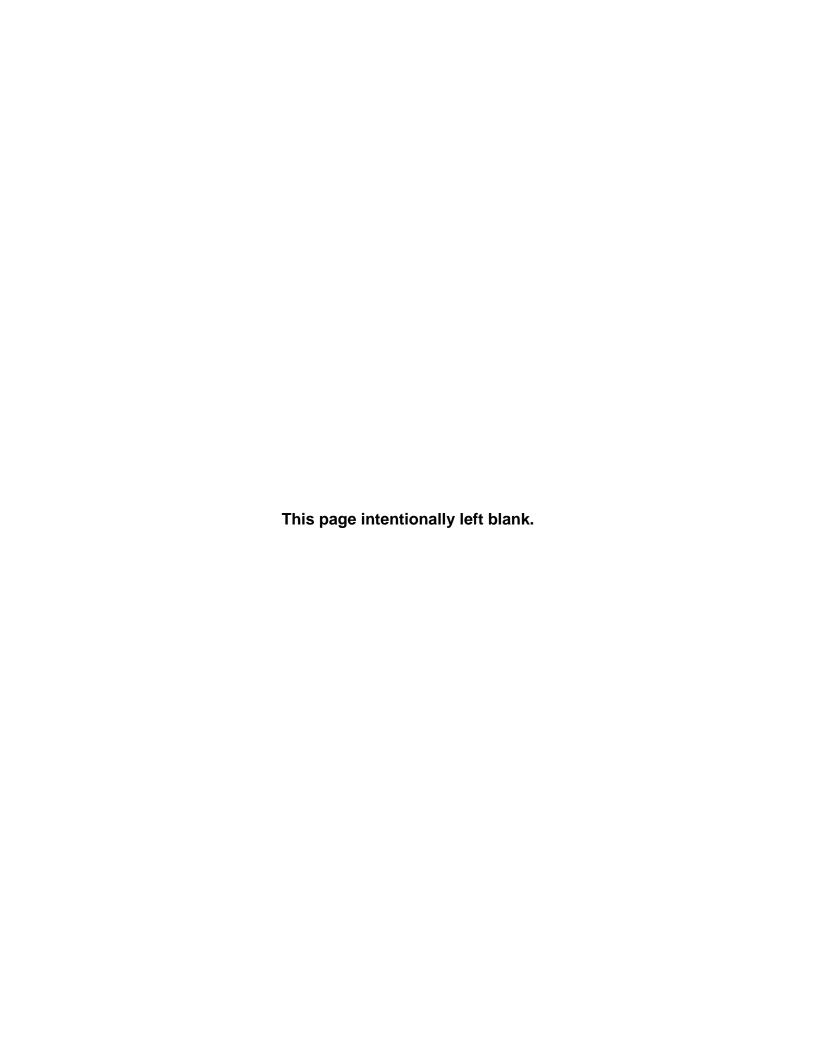




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Village of Patterson Hardin County 208 S. Warner Forest, Ohio 45843

To the Village Council:

As you are aware, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) must modify the *Independent Accountants' Report* we provide on your financial statements due to an interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). While AOS does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Our Report includes an adverse opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the amounts the statements present are misstated under the non-GAAP basis you follow. The AOS report also includes an opinion on the financial statements you prepared using the cash basis and financial statement format the AOS permits.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

May 30, 2008

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Patterson Hardin County 208 S. Warner Forest, Ohio 45843

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Patterson, Hardin County, (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the Village has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP requires presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Village's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Village does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require villages to reformat their statements. The Village has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Village of Patterson Hardin County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Village of Patterson, Hardin County, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1 describes.

The Village has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 30, 2008, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

May 30, 2008

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	Governmental Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Property and Local Taxes	\$1,389		\$1,389
Intergovernmental	4,125	\$4,538	8,663
Fines, Licenses and Permits	592		592
Earnings on Investments	134	281	415
Miscellaneous	14		14
Total Cash Receipts	6,254	4,819	11,073
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	689		689
Public Health Services	300		300
Basic Utility Service	597		597
Transportation		5,249	5,249
General Government	5,296		5,296
Total Cash Disbursements	6,882	5,249	12,131
Total Receipts (Under) Disbursements	(628)	(430)	(1,058)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	3,064	7,025	10,089
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$2,436	\$6,595	\$9,031

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

Governmental rund Types		
General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
\$1,463		\$1,463
4,059	\$2,804	6,863
540		540
191	225	416
1,094		1,094
7,347	3,029	10,376
662		662
288		288
100		100
500		500
	331	331
8,043		8,043
9,593	331	9,924
(2,246)	2,698	452
5,310	4,327	9,637
\$3,064	\$7,025	\$10,089
	\$1,463 4,059 540 191 1,094 7,347 662 288 100 500 8,043 9,593 (2,246) 5,310	General Special Revenue \$1,463 \$2,804 540 191 225 1,094 3,029 662 288 100 500 331 8,043 9,593 331 (2,246) 2,698 5,310 4,327

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Village of Patterson, Hardin County, (the Village) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides street lighting, maintains storm drains, and street repair and maintenance.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

B. Accounting Basis

These financial statements follow the accounting basis the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the Auditor of State prescribes or permits.

C. Cash and Investments

The Village does not have any investments. All money is maintained in an interest bearing checking account.

D. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Village classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund reports all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from private-purpose trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Village streets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Village Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated. The Village did not use the encumbrance method of accounting.

A summary of 2007 and 2006 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant, and Equipment

The Village records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Village maintains a cash pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2007	2006
Demand deposits	\$9,031	\$10,089

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2007 and 2006 follows:

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual		
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
General	\$6,635	\$6,254	(\$381)	
Special Revenue	2,915	4,819	1,904	
Total	\$9,550	\$11,073	\$1,523	

2007 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$7,275	\$6,882	\$393
Special Revenue	7,200	5,249	1,951
Total	\$14,475	\$12,131	\$2,344

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

Budgeted Actual			
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$9,505	\$7,347	(\$2,158)
Special Revenue	1,874	3,029	1,155
Total	\$11,379	\$10,376	(\$1,003)

2006 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$11,393	\$9,593	\$1,800
Special Revenue	2,700	331	2,369
Total	\$14,093	\$9,924	\$4,169

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Village.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2007 and 2006, OPERS members contributed 9.5% and 9%, respectively, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 13.85% and 13.7%, respectively, of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2007.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

Comprehensive property and general liability;

7. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has mandated that the Village reduce the amount of waste going into a neighboring creek. An engineering study was paid for through a grant obtained by Hardin County. At this time the Village does not know the future course of action that will be required by the EPA.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of Patterson Hardin County 208 S. Warner Forest, Ohio 45843

To the Village Council:

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Patterson, Hardin County, (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated May 30, 2008, wherein we noted the Village followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Village's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Village's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider the following deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting: 2007-001, 2007-002, and 2007-003.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Village's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Village of Patterson
Hardin County
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. However, we believe the significant deficiency described above as finding number 2007-002 is also a material weakness.

We also noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated May 30, 2008.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2007-003.

We also noted a certain noncompliance or other matter not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Village's management in a separate letter dated May 30, 2008.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the management and Village Council. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

May 30, 2008

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2007-001

Significant Deficiency

Maintaining Supporting Documentation for Expenditures and the Adoption of a Policy for the Purchase of Amenities

In order to support the existence and validity of an expenditure transaction, a village should maintain the original invoice provided by the vendor or other supporting documentation such as receipts. In addition, a village should have a policy in place to govern the purchase of amenities. During 2007, the Village had the following expenditures, in the amount of \$889, that did have supporting documentation. In addition, the Village did not have a policy to govern the purchase of amenities.

- Check #4143 in the amount of \$100 was issued to the Village Solicitor for reimbursement of 2006 mileage. The Village Solicitor had submitted documentation for this mileage reimbursement, however, since the request was in excess of the amount budgeted by the Village the Solicitor agreed to be reimbursed only for the \$100 appropriated. The Village Fiscal Officer did not maintain the documentation that was presented by the Solicitor.
- Check #4147 in the amount of \$50 was issued to the Fiscal Officer. Council authorized the
 purchase of a \$50 gas card for a council member that was hospitalized. The Fiscal Officer
 issued a check to herself to purchase this gas card but no invoice for the purchase was
 maintained by the Fiscal Officer.
- Check #4154 in the amount of \$714 was issued to the individual hired for snow plowing. Council
 had approved by resolution to pay this individual forty two cents per minute of road plowed. The
 documentation to support the actual miles of plowed road was not maintained by the Fiscal
 Officer.

Although the supporting documentation was missing for these expenditures, each of these checks were signed by both the Fiscal Officer and the Mayor, the voucher packets were signed by Council, and the type of expenditure appeared reasonable for a village.

The failure to obtain supporting documentation for each expenditure may result in an improper expenditure of Village money. In addition, the purchase of items such as gifts, meals, or other amenities, without a written policy may result in an illegal expenditure. Illegal expenditures may result in findings for recovery against the person(s) receiving the benefit and/or against the Village Officials who approved such expenditure(s).

The Village should not process and/or approve expenditures for payment, unless they are supported by the original detailed invoice or other supporting documentation. In addition Council should adopt a policy to govern the purchase of gifts, meals, or other amenities. At minimum, this policy should identify the allowable purposes, the types of amenities allowed to be purchased, and the allowable amount that can be spent for these amenities. When developing this policy the Village should review Auditor of State Bulletin 2003-005 for and/or Auditor of State Best Practices newsletters for guidance.

Village of Patterson Hardin County Schedule of Findings Page 3

FINDING NUMBER 2007-002

Material Weakness

Classification of Revenues

To assist in the effective management and reporting of financial resources, a village should have procedures in place to help assure that revenues are correctly classified in the accounting records and financial statements. The Village's 2007 accounting records and financial statements had revenue classification errors in the amount of \$592 in the General Fund; \$372 in the Special Revenue Street Fund and \$30 in the Special Revenue State Highway Fund. In 2006, the Village's accounting records and financial statements had \$540 of revenue reclassifications in the General Fund. The classification errors consisted of but were not limited to the recording of motor vehicle registration fees as tax revenue instead of intergovernmental revenue, and the recording of cable franchise fees as miscellaneous revenue instead of fines, licenses, and permits revenue.

The failure to correctly classify revenue in the financial statements and accounting records, may impact the user's understanding of the financial operations, may inhibit the Village's ability to make sound financial decisions, may impact the Village's ability to comply with budgetary laws, and may result in the material misstatement of the financial statements. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to reflect revenue in the correct line items.

The Village Fiscal Officer should review the Village Officer's Handbook and Auditor of State Audit Bulletins for guidance in the recording of revenues. The Village's Fiscal Officer and Council should also perform a periodic review of the financial records to help identify revenue recording errors.

FINDING NUMBER 2007-003

Significant Deficiency/Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision shall make any contract or give any order involving the expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. Further, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification shall be null and void.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates, and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- 1. "Then and Now" Certificate If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the fiscal officer can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The subdivision has thirty days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution.
 - Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or
 ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the
 expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable
 requirement for approval of expenditures by the subdivision.

Village of Patterson Hardin County Schedule of Findings Page 3

FINDING NUMBER 2007-003 (Continued)

- 2. Blanket Certificate Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates for a certain sum of money not in excess of an amount established by resolution or ordinance adopted by a majority of the members of the legislative authority against any specific line item account over a period not running beyond the end of the current fiscal year. The blanket certificates may, but need not, be limited to a specific vendor. Only one blanket certificate may be outstanding at one particular time for any one particular line item appropriation.
- 3. Super Blanket Certificate The subdivision may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one super blanket certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

Unless the exceptions noted above are used, prior certification is not only required by statute but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval

During 2007 and 2006, the Fiscal Officer did not properly certify the availability of funds for 100% of the Village expenditures. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds could result in expenditures greater than appropriations which may lead to negative cash fund balances. In addition, the failure to certify all obligations could result in the material misstatement of encumbrances in the Village's annual financial statements.

To improve controls over disbursements and to help reduce the possibility of the Village's funds exceeding budgetary spending limitations, we recommend that the Village's Fiscal Officer certify that the funds are or will be available prior to the obligation by the Village. When prior certification is not possible, "then and now" certification should be used.

OFFICIALS' RESPONSE:

The Village chose not to respond to the findings disclosed above.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2005-001	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) – Expenditures exceeded appropriations	Yes	
2005-002	Ohio Rev. Code Section. 5705.41(D) – The Village Clerk failed to certify the availability of funds prior to expenditures	No	Repeated as Finding 2007-003



VILLAGE OF PATTERSON

HARDIN COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED JULY 3, 2008