

**Summit County Engineer's Office
Vehicle Usage Log
Audit Report**

Prepared For:

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**Approved by Audit Committee
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**Summit County Engineer's Office
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Background, Objectives and Methodology**

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Summit County Codified Ordinance Section 169.25 states that all employees who are designated or who operate a County vehicle shall complete a usage log for the vehicle and submit the logs to the Department of Insurance and Risk Management on a quarterly basis. On October 4, 2007, Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry issued Executive Order 07-320 stating that all employees utilizing vehicles for the purpose of commuting will be subject to the IRS regulations regarding taxable fringe benefits. In addition, it states that Internal Audit will randomly audit logs to determine compliance with the Executive Order and IRS regulations.

AUDIT OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The primary focus of this review was to provide reasonable assurance, based on the testing performed, that vehicle logs are being properly approved, submitted, and maintained in accordance with legislation and that payroll deductions are being made for the respective employees in accordance with IRS Publication 15B.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Based on the results of our review, we prepared specific issues and recommendations for improvement that were discussed with management. These recommendations, as well as management's unaltered written response, can be found in the following sections of this report.

**Summit County Engineer's Office
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Scope**

Specific Objectives:

To ensure compliance with Codified Ordinance 169.25, Executive Order 07-320, and IRS Publication 15B.

Scope:

All vehicle logs completed and submitted to the Department of Insurance and Risk Management from January 1, 2010 through November 2010.

The following were the major audit steps performed:

OBJECTIVE 1 – TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH CODIFIED ORDINANCE, EXECUTIVE ORDER, AND IRS REGULATIONS

1. Obtain and review appropriate legislation.
2. Meet with the appropriate personnel to obtain an understanding of the current processes and procedures for the handling of vehicle logs.
3. Obtain electronic vehicle log information from the Department of Insurance and Risk Management. Review listing for gaps and to determine that employees submitting logs are on the authorized driver list.
4. Trace and agree the vehicle make/model, license plate number, and/or serial number to the Summit County vehicle listing. Verify logs are collected for all vehicles and have been submitted timely.
5. Select a sample of departments with designated vehicles and obtain departments' vehicle logs. Determine that the standard log is utilized and that each log contains a supervisor's/manager's signature of approval.
6. Generate a Banner report of all Summit County employees who are currently receiving the appropriate payroll deduction for a designated vehicle.
7. Verify that all employees with a designated vehicle are paying the appropriate per day rate for the vehicle.
8. Investigate discrepancies and summarize results.
9. Make recommendations where appropriate.

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Detailed Comments

IAD obtained and reviewed the following legislation to gain an understanding of the requirements for completing, submitting, and maintaining vehicle logs and the applicable IRS regulations:

- Summit County Codified Ordinance 169.25
- Summit County Executive Order 07-320
- Summit County Executive Order 10-045
- IRS Publication 15-B for 2010
- IRS Taxable Fringe Benefit Guide, January 2010

An interview was conducted with the Assistant Administrator of the Department of Insurance and Risk Management to gain an understanding of the current processes in place regarding vehicle logs. Electronic vehicle log information for 2010 was obtained for review and testing.

The 2010 Authorized Driver list was obtained from the Department of Insurance and Risk Management and compared to the electronic vehicle log data to verify that all employees submitting vehicle logs are authorized to operate a County vehicle.

A listing of all Summit County vehicles was obtained from the Executive's Department of Human Resources to select a sample for detailed testing. The list was then filtered to exclude vehicles that would not require logs to be submitted based on qualifications from IRS Publication 15-B, including Sheriff's Office vehicles, trailers, dump trucks, flatbeds, etc. Vehicle log data from 2010 was obtained from the Assistant Administrator of the Department of Insurance and Risk Management and imported into ACL. The data was summarized on VIN number to obtain a listing of all vehicles that logs have been submitted for. IAD then imported the listing of vehicles obtained from the Executive's Department of Human Resources into ACL and compared it with the vehicle log data to generate a listing of vehicles for which logs had not been submitted.

The standard designated and pool vehicle log forms were obtained from the Summit County intranet (SCENE) to gain an understanding of the forms which are to be utilized. A sample of five departments was selected for detailed testing. 2009 and 2010 Vehicle log forms were obtained and reviewed to verify that the standard log form is being utilized and that the logs contained evidence of supervisor review and approval

A WebFocus report of all Summit County employees who are currently receiving the county car reimbursement payroll deduction (deduction code 997) was generated by pay period 2010. IAD traced and agreed drivers on the 2010 Designation of Vehicles Executive Order (10-045) to the payroll deduction report to verify that all employees with a designated vehicle are receiving a deduction. IAD issued a memo to the Fiscal Office notifying them of the testing performed and corresponding issues as they would constitute fringe benefit issues and possible IRS violations.

The following issues were noted:

1. Issue

Upon discussion with Engineer personnel, IAD noted that there is no supervisor approval present on the vehicle logs. Additionally, through testing, IAD verified that none of the logs reviewed contained evidence that a supervisory review had been performed.

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Detailed Comments**

Recommendation

IAD recommends that all vehicle logs be reviewed and approved by the respective employee's supervisor. This will help to ensure that all logs are being properly approved by the appropriate personnel.

Management Action Plan

Pool vehicle usage logs are maintained by the Department. When an employee requests use of a pool vehicle, they are assigned a vehicle and given the corresponding vehicle mileage log to be filled in. The logs are returned to the receptionist after each use of a vehicle and the receptionist reviews the log to ensure that it has been updated. The logs are forwarded to the Public Service Division on a monthly basis to enter vehicle data into the County's database. The logs are forwarded to the Director of Public Service for review to ensure all uses are for legitimate government business reasons. If there are discrepancies or issues related to proper usage, the Director of Public Service provides for contact of the individual to resolve the issues on behalf of the Department. Once all pending issues, if any, are resolved the Director of Public Service approves the logs and signs accordingly.