

Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA Comptroller COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

Office of the County Comptroller

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Comptroller Addresses Onondaga County Supervisors Association

Syracuse, NY – On June 21, 2016, Onondaga County Comptroller Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA, Esq. addressed the Onondaga County Supervisors Association. The Association invited Antonacci to share his views on Consensus and consolidation efforts generally.

Antonacci told the group, "I applaud the efforts of the volunteers on Consensus. They jump-started a civic discussion on how we conduct government affairs in Central New York, but if anyone thinks their suggestions will lead to the kind of tax relief we need to make our community more affordable, they will be disappointed."

Antonacci highlighted how New York State mandates are a crushing burden on local governments. "In Onondaga County, Medicaid consumes nearly every County property tax dollar collected. When combined with the fact that New York State spends more per capita than any other state, you can understand why New York has stagnated when compared to the rest of the country," said Antonacci.

Antonacci also highlighted his Consolidation, Shared Services, and Integration, or CSI, program (http://www.ongov.net/comptroller/CSIOnondaga.html). "Our office has had the pleasure to work with many of your towns in looking at how you do business. Some of the first reports we did were for the Town of Camillus and their Justice Court and Tax Receiver. Just recently, we worked with Supervisor Venesky and looked at fire protection in the Town of Cicero. Manlius was one of the first in consolidation efforts when it brought together the three village police forces into one town police department in 1985. Towns have been doing their part. It is time for the State to do its part," said Antonacci.

Antonacci thanked Camillus Supervisor and Association President Mary Ann Coogan for the invitation and opportunity to speak before the Onondaga County Supervisors Association.