

**PRESS RELEASE FROM
COMPTROLLER JOHN M. KENNEDY, JR.**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FROM THE DESK OF COUNTY COMPTROLLER JOHN M. KENNEDY, JR.

February 24, 2015: As I complete my first few months as the newly elected Suffolk County Comptroller, it is my intention to make sure that my role as your Fiscal Watch Dog is as transparent as I promised it would be during the election cycle. The average citizen is not often aware of the responsibilities the Comptroller's Office. The Comptroller heads up the Department of Audit and Control which consist of 4 divisions: Payroll, Accounting, Audit and Municipal Financing. Also, as a result of the successful referendum to merge the Treasurer's Office with my office we will be acquiring all the duties of the County Treasurer by 2018. With the recent announcement that Treasurer Angie Carpenter will be leaving the County to become the Islip Town Supervisor, it is my hope that the County Legislature will take action to enact the merger as soon as possible so that we can immediately incur savings that I estimate to be upwards of \$400,000 in the first year. My office is fully ready to take on this responsibility!



Suffolk County has a budget of 2.8 billion dollars and a population of approximately 1.5 million people; more people than 11 states. As part of my initiatives to protect your tax dollars, my office is not only looking for ways to monitor spending, we are also looking to find technological ways to make this office and county government run more economically and efficiently. One of my goals is to go as paperless as possible by making payments to our vendors and employees electronically. The county currently issues over 200,000

paper checks per year to our vendors. Considering the cost of check stock, postage, ink and manpower we will be saving precious time, money and resources.

In an effort to be more accessible to citizens, I am beginning a major overhaul of the Comptroller's website which is located at suffolkcountyny.gov/comptroller. When complete, it will be more user friendly, enable greater access to our services, forms, procurement announcements and other information that may be beneficial to you and/or your businesses.

In the future, it is my intention to showcase important initiatives of my office in more articles like this. If need be, my office is ready and available to help you; contact us at (631) 853-5039 or email us at comptroller@suffolkcountyny.gov. – you will always get an answer.

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