

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

Office of the County Comptroller

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NEWS RELEASE

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COMPTROLLER RECOMMENDS LIMITS ON CELL PHONE USE IMMEDIATE SAVINGS OF APPROXIMATELY \$50,000

Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA, Comptroller of Onondaga County, has released his office's review of County-owned wireless devices. Mr. Antonacci was quoted as saying, "In this day and age, the use of wireless devices has become almost as essential as the desk telephone. However, it is clear every department must examine employee usage. The taxpayers should only pay for cell phones where it is absolutely necessary for the employee to carry out his or her duties."

Mr. Antonacci further notes "approximately 148 phones had little or no use costing the taxpayers of Onondaga County approximately \$50,000. Based on IRS regulations and lack of use by certain departments we recommend more detailed review be taken of County cell phone use including cost savings ideas such as the pooling of minutes or reimbursement to employees for use of personal cell phones on a call by call basis."

The full report can be found on the County website at www.ongov.net/Comptroller. For further information please contact Robert E. Antonacci at 435-2130.