



COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

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County Comptroller*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **COMPTROLLER URGES COUNTY TO BUY LOCAL, ESPECIALLY IF LOCAL COMPANY IS LOWEST BIDDER**

### **Audit finds local company offered best price, but County awards contract to higher priced out of county vendor**

Robert E. Antonacci II CPA, Comptroller of Onondaga County, has released an audit of the Community Development Department involving EPA Certified Lead Based Paint Inspection and Testing Services.

Mr. Antonacci stated, "In this audit we reviewed purchasing procedures, including administrative directives, and discovered in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) a local company offered to perform services for the county taxpayers at a lower cost than the vendor awarded the contract. The lowest proposal, submitted by the local company was 14% lower than the proposal submitted by the vendor located outside of Onondaga County. It is our opinion there were no compelling reasons to remain with the incumbent vendor and the contract award should have gone to the local company."

The audit report also makes recommendations for reforming the RFP process, especially as it applies to multi-year contracts. "We suggest the Department look at the totality of the contract price, and when that contract price for the term of the contract exceeds \$50,000.00 the department should then follow procedures and directives set forth by the County Executive," Antonacci added.

The audit report is attached. For further information please contact Robert Antonacci II CPA, at 435-2130.