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Comptroller

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Onondaga County Comptroller Releases Audit of Overtime Cost in the Sheriff's Office Custody Division at the Patrick J. Corbett Justice Center**

Robert E. Antonacci II, Onondaga County Comptroller, releases his office's Audit of Overtime Cost in the Custody Division of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office. The Custody Division operates the Justice Center, which is the holding facility for inmates awaiting arraignment, trial and sentencing. The facility is managed by the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office and has an approximate budget of \$46 million.

Mr. Antonacci stated, "The motivation for this audit was what seemed to be the annual story criticizing the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office for overtime. In conjunction with the contract between Onondaga County and the custody employees expiring December 31, 2012, we thought it was as good a time as ever to examine the institutional and structural issues affecting overtime within the Custody Division."

The audit was performed by the Onondaga County Comptroller's Audit Division headed by Phil Britt, and had the full cooperation of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office.

"It is unfortunate various contractual and administrative decisions have handcuff the Sheriff's Office in implementing certain management options. In our opinion, simply allowing the use of part-time custody deputies would save the taxpayers of Onondaga County over a million dollars per year. We are recommending County officials make every effort to work with the union representing these hard working men and women to allow for the use of part-time deputies," Antonacci concluded.

The deputies employed in the Custody Department are represented by DSBA (Onondaga Deputy Sheriff's Benevolent Association). The contract between the DSBA and Onondaga County expired December 31, 2012 and negotiations are ongoing.

For further information please contact Robert Antonacci II CPA, at 435-2130.