



Office of Erie County Comptroller  
**HON. STEFAN I. MYCHAJLIW**  
95 Franklin Street ♦ 11th Floor ♦ Buffalo, New York 14202 ♦ (716) 858-8400

Contact: **Bryan Fiume**, Chief of Staff & Associate Deputy Comptroller  
Office: (716) 858-4745 Cell: (716) 830-5801 E-Mail: [bryan.fiume@erie.gov](mailto:bryan.fiume@erie.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: December 2, 2015

## **COMPTROLLER MYCHAJLIW'S STATEMENT ON THE PASSAGE OF THE 2016 COUNTY BUDGET**

*Erie County Comptroller collaborates in a bi-partisan manner with the Legislature, Sheriff, and County Executive to deliver tax cut to families for the second year in a row*

"I remember the chaotic and dysfunctional process of the Red/Green budget crisis ten years ago. I was there. Saw it firsthand. From the sidelines I held those politicians accountable but was disgusted that so called leaders decimated services and raised taxes.

A decade later, I am proud of the positive role I played in working with Democrats and Republicans to give families a well-deserved tax cut. We did this collaboratively, members of all political parties, while maintaining services. It was an honor to leave the sidelines and 'get in the game' to stand up for the people that pay our bills: the hard-working taxpayers of Erie County.

The Comptroller's Office worked together with the Administration and the Legislature to ensure a smooth process that respected taxpayers, with the ultimate result being a tax cut. For taxpayers, this means two years of consecutive tax cuts, an occurrence that hasn't happened in 15 years. The adopted budget decreased the tax levy by over \$1.5 million, which will change the tax rate to \$4.96 per 1000 of assessed value, from \$4.99.

As the County's Chief Financial Officer, I was proud to be part of the process that delivered this positive result for taxpayers. As our local economy rebounds, and the fiscal health of the county improves, it is essential that public servants return the benefits of our resurgence back to the taxpayers that funded it."

-Erie County Comptroller Stefan I. Mychajliw

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