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Comptroller says county lost money due to mismanagement

By: YNN Staff

BUFFALO, N.Y. -- Erie County's comptroller says the county has lost hundreds of thousands of dollars because of mismanagement.

Mark Poloncarz says an audit of the county's payment in lieu of taxes agreements shows the Division of Real Property Tax and Budget failed to keep track of payments.

He says they also failed to correctly collect interest and penalties for late payments and did not correctly bill recipients.

Poloncarz says the same problems were found when the division was audited in 1998 and 2001 and that something needs to be done to change things.

"This should be under one department, and truthfully in the best interest of the community, it is the I.D.A. that should be doing the invoicing and the providing a copy of all of the invoices to my office, to the Division of Budget and to the Division of Real Property so that every one of us can confirm this and be certain its correct," said Erie County Comptroller Mark Poloncarz.

Poloncarz says when the pilot payments fall short, taxpayers are stuck making up the difference.



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