

CHRISTOPHER L. JACOBS

COUNTY CLERK

Rafar to Evergy & Environment Committee

GA

March 7, 2012

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Honorable Mark C. Polancarz County Executive County of Erie 95 Franklin Street Buffalo, NY 14202

RE: Creation of an Erie County Land Bank

Dear County Executive:

I am aware that your administration is considering applying for one of the 10 Land Bank designations from the State of New York.

I write to express my support for such an application. As a lifelong resident of the City of Buffalo and someone involved in urban development for years, I believe a Land Bank can be a powerful instrument to combat blight in distressed neighborhoods throughout our County while being a catalyst for true and sustained reinvestment. As you are aware, the problems of vacant homes and the neglect of property are no longer solely relegated to the City of Buffalo or even first ring suburbs. To be truly successful I believe such an effort needs to be regional and inter-municipal in scope and truly collaborative in its implementation.

I support your efforts in this regard and my office, which plays a major role in all real estate transactions throughout the County of Erie, stands ready and willing to partner with you in this effort.

Sincerely yours,

Christopher L. Jacobs

County Clerk

CC: See Attached List