



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## STRONG CHARTER=STRONG GOVERNMENT CHANGES FOSTER TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

KINGSTON, NY (May 1, 2013)...Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach released the 2013-1st Quarter Review highlighting the challenges facing the County's financial oversight and the impact of Charter changes on county government during the first ninety days of the year.

Included in the nine page report is a feature of the effectiveness of the \$58 million in claims auditing performed by the Comptroller's Office during the first three months of 2013 as well as the limitations of reconciling the over \$109 million bank balance as a result of departmental incompletions and delays.

The Comptroller's Office, a strong proponent of the separation of duties, commended the Charter Commission and the Legislature for recognizing the importance of dividing the accounting and auditing functions as an effort not only to intensify the internal controls, but to be consistent with professional standards. The Review also lauded the adoption of the Comptroller's recommendation of an Audit Committee, which has been established to objectively select and collaborate with an independent, external auditing firm and provide further transparency and accountability pertaining to financial matters.

The Review can be found at [www.ulstercountyny.gov/comptroller](http://www.ulstercountyny.gov/comptroller)

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