



# NEWS FROM THE ULSTER COUNTY COMPTROLLER

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## ENSURING 'GOOD THINGS' HAPPEN AND 'BAD THINGS' DON'T

### Comptroller Auerbach Issues White Paper on Internal Control

KINGSTON, NY (March 16, 2009)...Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach released a white paper today on *Improving Internal Control in Ulster County's New Charter Form of Government*.

"Internal control activities are designed to protect county resources," explained Comptroller Auerbach, "and this is the perfect nexus in time to establish new and reinvigorate existing systems of internal control now that Ulster County has been reorganized under the County Charter."

Auerbach prepared the white paper to introduce the concepts of internal control in the context of Ulster County's new charter government. "We designed it to be a user friendly reference document for continuous improvement in the county's internal control system," said Auerbach.

The document is also a precursor to a special report that will soon be issued by the Comptroller detailing findings and recommendations resulting from a recently completed internal control survey of county departments. "The scope of internal control activities is extensive and may be new to some," said Auerbach, "this white paper introduces the concepts and activities of internal control and demonstrates how they relate to the legislative, executive and comptroller functions of the new Ulster County government."

The Ulster County Charter structured the role of the Office of the Comptroller to be independent of county business activities and free from interference in establishing the scope of its work and the communication of the results of its work. "This is critical to undertaking unbiased evaluations of county activities," explained Comptroller Auerbach.

"We are at a watershed period in Ulster County's history and we have enormous opportunity to build on what has worked well in the past but, more importantly, recast the dye on what has not worked well," said Auerbach

The white paper has been forwarded to county departments and agencies and can be found on the Comptroller's website at [www.co.ulster.ny.us](http://www.co.ulster.ny.us)

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