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Comptroller

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Comptroller Antonacci Responds to County Executive Mahoney's Name-Calling\***

Syracuse, NY – Onondaga County Comptroller Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA, Esq., responded to County Executive Joanne M. Mahoney by calling it a sad situation. “As sad as it may seem, it is now par for the course for Mahoney to resort to name calling and personal attacks when confronted with facts she does not like. I am just the latest in a long line of public official she has attacked for simply asking her to tell the truth,” said Antonacci.

“Onondaga County taxpayers deserve better. When there are legitimate issues, our leaders should debate the merits, not engage in schoolyard bullying,” continued Antonacci. “The concerns Mahoney refuses to address are simple, where is the New York State bailout of the Miranda Lambert Concert, where is the contract with Live Nation, and where are the reports on the Amphitheater the Legislature requested? By calling me names, it tells me the County Executive has no good answers to these basic questions,” said Antonacci.

During a September 29, 2014 Ways & Means Committee meeting, SMG anticipated a loss of \$95,470 in 2015 if there was one concert at the Amphitheater. After the first concert and during a 2016 budget review hearing, Deputy County Executive William Fisher stated the concert performed similar to what was anticipated and referenced a “Proforma P&L” presented to the Legislature a year earlier. Then a few months later, the Administration released a profit and loss statement indicating a modest profit of \$2,313. The County Comptroller's Office ultimately found the Miranda Lambert Concert lost over \$100,000 and is still waiting on a bailout from New York State to cover the loss.

“Just tell the truth, that's all I'm asking for,” Antonacci said. “The Amphitheater is a \$50 million investment by the taxpayers and it appears private companies are profiting off of the taxpayers. Transparency is the key to protecting the taxpayers,” Antonacci concluded.

For further information, contact Robert Antonacci II, CPA at (315) 435-2130.

\*As reported by Kevin Schenk on WSYR Radio on June 15, 2016.

