



Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA  
Comptroller

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

Office of the  
*County Comptroller*

John H. Mulroy Civic Center, 14th Floor  
421 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, New York 13202-2998  
(315) 435-2130 • Fax (315) 435-2250  
[www.ongov.net](http://www.ongov.net)

James V. Maturo  
Deputy Comptroller/Accounting

Philip M. Britt  
Deputy Comptroller/Audit

September 21, 2010

The Honorable County Executive  
The Chair of the County Legislature  
The Chair of the Ways and Means Committee  
The Chief Fiscal Officer  
The Clerk of the County Legislature

An audit of Onondaga County memberships was conducted by questionnaire. A copy of the questionnaire is attached as Exhibit B. The focus of our examination was to determine the actual amount of membership dues and associations paid for by the taxpayers of Onondaga County. In addition, our audit looked to determine those memberships and associations that were mandated by either Federal or State Law, regulations or by the terms of any grant or program.

Our findings indicated Onondaga County pays approximately \$217,899 for memberships and association. Of this amount \$164,461 is not mandated, and thus remain choices made by the County. Arguably many of the memberships and associations provide benefit to the department. The departments offered compelling reasons for maintaining existing memberships and associations, but unless mandated, are not required for the department to operate. In these tough economic times it would seem the County could cancel or suspend many of these memberships saving approximately \$164,461. In addition, of those memberships department heads determined mandated, our audit finds that approximately \$18,000 are not required by statute or regulation and we therefore believe this additional amount may be saved by canceling or suspending those memberships. We also note that our audit has resulted in the departments voluntarily canceling memberships amounting to \$14,544.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA

enclosures



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January 28, 2010

Department Head

Dear Department Head:

We are conducting a desk audit of Memberships and Associations paid for by Onondaga County. We note your department belongs to the several different associations.

Please answer the following questions either by e-mail or within the attached and return to our office within 15 business days.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA

REA/nlc  
Attachment



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## Membership and Association Questionnaire

Membership/Association Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the amount correct?      Yes      No

Is membership in this organization mandated by Federal or State Law, regulations or by the terms of any grant or program?      Yes      No

If yes—please explain the requirement.

If no—why is the Department a member of this association?

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Please list any and all benefits of membership in this association available to the department or County.

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Department	Membership/Association Name	Mandated		Amount	
		Yes	No		
<b>Accounting</b>	American Payroll Association		X	\$ 275.00	
	NYS Government Finance Officers Association		X	175.00	
	Governmental Finance Officers Association		X	375.00	
<b>Aging &amp; Youth</b>	Association of NYS Youth Bureaus		X	1,000.00	
	Empire State Coalition		X	225.00	
	NYSAAAA		X	4,540.00	
	National Council on Aging		X	95.00	
	Meals on Wheels Association of America		X	200.00	
	American Dietetic Association		X	241.00	
	Commission on Dietetic Registration		X	200.00	
	NYS Certification		X	155.00	
	Business Publishers		X	369.00	
<b>Community Development</b>	National Community Development Association		X	1,545.00	
	NYS Rural Housing Coalition		X	325.00	
	Preservation League of NYS		X	55.00	
<b>Corrections</b>	American Jail Association		X	300.00	
	NYS County Correction Instructors Association		X	40.00	
	American Correctional Association		X	300.00	
<b>County Attorney</b>	NYS Trial Lawyers Association		X	200.00	
	NYS Association of County Attorneys		X	1,936.00	
<b>County Clerk</b>	National Notary Association		X	34.00	
	NYS Association of County Clerks		X	300.00	
	NYS Association of Local Government Record Officers		X	30.00	
	Property Records Industry Association		X	250.00	
<b>County Executive</b>	Syracuse Press Club		X	50.00	
	National Association of Counties			10,049.00	
	NYS County Executives' Association		X	8,427.00	
	NYS Association of Counties		X	35,707.00	
	Government Finance Officers Association		X	261.00	
<b>County Legislature</b>	<b>Government Finance Officers Association</b>		X	300.00	
	NACO		X	250.00	
	NYS Association of Clerks of County Legislative Boards		X	100.00	
	Onondaga County Bar Association		X	280.00	
<b>District Attorney</b>	International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists		X	100.00	
	American Bar Association		X	407.50	
	<b>New York State Bar Association</b>		X	285.00	
	New York State District Attorney's Association	X		1,000.00	
	National District Attorney's Association	X		780.00	
	Mid-Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network	X		350.00	
	International Narcotic Enforcement	X		40.00	
	Chiefs of Police--Central New York		X	80.00	
	Association of Police Chiefs--Onondaga County		X	50.00	
	NYS Stop-DWI Coordinators Association		X	4,200.00	
	State of NY Police Juvenile Officers Association			200.00	
	Greater Upstate NY ADEC			25.00	
	<b>Economic Development</b>	SESAME		X	2,900.00
		Industrial Asset Management Council		X	1,495.00
Certified Commercial Investment Member			X	595.00	
Northeast Economic Development Association				100.00	
National Association of Manufacturer's Site Selection Network				250.00	
Cornet Global, Inc.				800.00	
<b>Elections</b>	Elections Commissioners Association of the State of New York		X	140.00	
	The Election Center			200.00	
<b>Emergency Communications</b>	Public Safety Communications Accreditations Support Network		X	50.00	
	Onondaga County Chapter of Chiefs of Police		X	160.00	
	National Emergency Number Association (NENA)		X	120.00	
	New York Statewide 9-1-1 Coordinators Association		X	50.00	
<b>Emergency Management</b>	Association of Public Safety Communication Officials (APCO)		X	184.00	
	NYS Emergency Management		X	200.00	

Department	Membership/Association Name	Mandated		Amount
		Yes	No	
	NYS Fire Coordinator's Association		X	75.00
	Onondaga County Highway Superintendents' Association		X	50.00
	International Code Council	X		300.00
	International Fire Code Council	X		100.00
	NYS Building Officials Central Chapter	X		150.00
	NYS Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association	X		120.00
	National Fire Protection Association	X		140.00
	NYS Fire Investigators	X		200.00
	International Association of Arson Invetigators	X		300.00
	NYS Fire Chiefs		X	100.00
	American Heart Association Training Center-EMS Bureau		X	125.00
	International Association of Emergency Managers			200.00
<b>Facilities Management</b>	Building Owners and Management Association		X	545.00
	ICLIE Local Government for Sustainability		X	2,750.00
	CNY Postal Customer Council		X	40.00
<b>Finance/Management/Budget</b>	Government Finance Officers Association		X	448.00
	NYS Government Finance Officers Association		X	145.00
	NYS County Treasurer and Finance Officer Association		X	30.00
	Central Region Directors of Real Property Tax		X	25.00
	Association of Receivers of Taxes, Onondaga County		X	10.00
	Onondaga County Assessors' Association		X	30.00
	NYS Assessors' Association		X	85.00
	NYS Real Property Tax Directors Association		X	75.00
	NYS Assoc of County Director of Real Property Tax Svcs Convention Dues		X	25.00
<b>Health</b>	National Healthy Start Association	X		1,500.00
	WIC Directors National Association		X	100.00
	Onondaga county Medical Society/Medical Society of NYS		X	1,000.00
	American Public Health Association		X	355.00
	NYS Conference of Environmental Health Directors		X	10.00
	American Water Works Association		X	182.00
	National Conference of Weights and Measures		X	150.00
	NYS Weights and Measures		X	40.00
	NYS Association for Food Protection		X	30.00
	NYS Association of County Health Directors		X	6,506.00
	International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists		X	110.00
	Society of Forensic Toxicologists		X	340.00
	International Association of Identification		X	420.00
	Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners		X	300.00
	American Society of Quality		X	130.00
	American Academy of Forensic Sciences		X	2,030.00
	NYS Association of County Coroners and Medical Examiners		X	300.00
	National Association of Medical Examiners		X	900.00
	American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators	X		200.00
	Onondaga County Chapter of Chiefs of Police		X	80.00
	National Commission on Correctional Health Care		X	4,000.00
	CNY Council on Adolescent Pregnancy			50.00
	Center for Screen-Time Awareness			100.00
	American Mosquito Control Association			120.00
	International Association for Food Protection			50.00
	Society for Public Health Education			130.00
<b>Hillbrook</b>	NYS Juvenile Detention Association		X	240.00
<b>Information Technology</b>	Jupiter Images		X	500.00
	NYS Local Government Information Technology Directors Association		X	50.00
	Network and System Programmers Association (NASPA)			110.00
<b>Insurance Division</b>	NYS Association of Self-Insured Counties		X	50.00
	Certified Risk Managers International			100.00
	Charter Property/Casualty Underwriters (CPCU)			240.00
	NYS Public Sector Coalition on Health Benefits			100.00
	Prima National			310.00

Department	Membership/Association Name	Mandated		Amount
		Yes	No	
<b>Library</b>	Polaris User's Group		X	100.00
	Syracuse Metronet		X	6,820.00
	Foundation Center		X	995.00
	CNY Library Resource		X	650.00
	Central Library Association		X	100.00
<b>Mental Health</b>	PULISDO		X	200.00
	CNY Directors Planning Group		X	500.00
	NYS Conference of Local Hygiene Directors, Inc.	X		10,519.00
	National Association of County Behavioral Health Directors		X	600.00
	Mental Health In Corrections Consortium		X	65.00
<b>Metropolitan Water Board</b>	Central New York Drug and Alcohol Association		X	50.00
	Dig Safely New York	X		7,300.00
<b>Office of the Environment</b>	American Water Workers Association		X	1,794.00
	National Association of Local Government Environment Professionals		X	225.00
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	International Species Information System (ISIS)	X		6,640.00
	American Zoological Association	X		7,372.00
	Sports Turf Managers		X	100.00
	NYS Recreation and Parks Society		X	740.00
	National Recreation and Parks Society		X	465.00
	National Association for Interpretation		X	165.00
	National Association of County Parks & Recreation Officials		X	90.00
	Association of Nature Center Directors		X	110.00
	American Fisheries Society Subscription			130.00
	<b>Personnel</b>	Society for Human Resource Management		X
Wellness Council of America			X	365.00
NYS Personnel and Civil Service Officers Association			X	100.00
NYS Public Employer Labor Relations Assoc. & Nat'l Public Employer			X	200.00
NCBI Affiliate			X	900.00
<b>Probation</b>	Affirmative Action Officers Association			50.00
	American Correctional Association		X	35.00
	American Probation and Parole Association		X	50.00
	CNY Association of Chiefs of Police		X	50.00
	District Attorney's Advisory Council		X	25.00
	NY Association of Pre-Trial Agencies		X	25.00
	Domestic Violence Coalition		X	50.00
	Elbridge Rod & Gun Club		X	100.00
	NYS Council of Probation Administrators	X		500.00
	Onondaga County Chapter of Chiefs of Police		X	80.00
<b>Purchasing</b>	National Association of Purchasing Management		X	510.00
	National Institute of Governmental Purchasing		X	330.00
	Greening USA		X	35.00
	US Green Building Council		X	500.00
	NYS Association of Municipal Purchasing Officials		X	200.00
<b>Social Services</b>	NYS Public Welfare Association		X	4,532.00
	Western Regional Commissioners Association		X	25.00
	Human Services Leadership Council		X	30.00
	NYS Association Fiscal Administrators Association			40.00
	Association of Informatino and Referral Services			250.00
	The Staff Development Association of NYS			45.00
<b>SOCPA</b>	NYS Planning Directors Association		X	75.00
	American Planning Association		X	333.00
<b>Transportation</b>	Onondaga County Highway Superintendent Association		X	300.00
	NYS County Highway Superintendent Association		X	250.00
	NYS Association of Town Superintendents of Highways, Inc.		X	75.00
	Pesticide Recertification	X		225.00
	Society of Professional Engineers	X		328.00
	Institute of Transportation Engineers		X	231.00
<b>Van Duyn</b>	NYS Association of Professional Land Surveyors		X	255.00
	American Health Info Management Association	X		465.00

Department	Membership/Association Name	Mandated		Amount
		Yes	No	
	CNA Training Advisor		X	300.00
	American Physical Therapy		X	520.00
	NYS Association of Home & Services for the Aging		X	32,000.00
	LTC Executive Council		X	2,700.00
	NYS Association of Long Term Care Administrators			50.00
	American Dietetic Association			250.00
	Gereontology Institute of NY			350.00
	Cerative Forecasting			85.00
<b>Veterans Service Agency</b>	County Veterans Service Officers Association		X	75.00
<b>Water Environment Protectio</b>	NYS Association of Approved Environmental Labs	X		365.00
	Instrument, Systems and Automation Society		X	350.00
	American Water Works Association		X	375.00
	Water Environment Federation		X	150.00
	National Fire Protection Association		X	450.00
	National Association of Fleet Administrators		X	470.00
	National Association of Clean Water Agencies		X	6,539.00
	NY Water Environment Association			140.00
	Society of Human Resources Management			170.00
	NYS Building Officials Conference			50.00
	Total Answered			213,084.50
	Total Not Answered			4,814.50
	Total Memberships and Associations			217,899.00
	Minus Mandated Memberships and Associations			38,894.00
	Minus Memberships and Associations Dropped			14,544.00
	Total Non-Mandated Memberships and Associations			\$ 164,461.00
<b>NOT ANSWERED</b>				
<b>Sheriff</b>	<b>Syracuse Press Club</b>			\$ 50.00
	Onondaga County Chapter Chiefs of Police			320.00
	NYS Tactical Officers Association			157.50
	NYS Sheriff's Association			350.00
	NYS Police Juvenile Officers Association			20.00
	NYS Fire Investigators			75.00
	NYS Association of Chiefs of Police			25.00
	NYS Tactical Officers Association			125.00
	National Technical Investigators Association			25.00
	MAGLOCLLEN			400.00
	Law Enforcement Executive Development Association			50.00
	International Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association			80.00
	International Homicide Investigator Association			200.00
	International Conference of Police Chaplains			125.00
	International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors			55.00
	International Association of Dive Rescue Specialists			80.00
	International Association of Chiefs of Police			200.00
	International Association of Identification			60.00
	International Association of Bomb Technicians			100.00
	Divers Alert Network			58.00
	District Attorney Advisory Council			50.00
	CVSA Association			50.00
	CNY Association Chiefs of Police			100.00
	Camillus Sportsman Club			595.00
	Association of Public Safety Communication Officials			92.00
	American Safety & Health Institute			120.00
	American Association of Police Polygraphist			600.00
	ALERT International			40.00
	Airborne Law Enforcement Association			150.00
	NYS Division of the International Association of Identification			20.00

Department	Membership/Association Name	Mandated		Amount
		Yes	No	
	American Jail Association (facility)		X	300.00
	American Jail Association		X	72.00
	American Correctional Association		X	70.00
	<b>Total Not Answered</b>			\$ 4,814.50
*Due to lack of response from Sheriff, all memberships determined to be non-mandated.				
Items not marked as mandated or non-mandated were already discontinued by the Department.				