

Matthew J. Beadnell *Comptroller*

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Comptroller Matthew J. Beadnell Releases Findings from Audit of County's Hotel/Motel Room Occupancy Tax

Over \$300,000 due to Onondaga County

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Onondaga County Comptroller Matthew J. Beadnell released the findings of a recent audit on Onondaga County's Hotel/Motel Room Occupancy Tax. The report encompassed fiftyone hotels/motels for the period 2016 through 2017 and found that Onondaga County is due \$326,043.

Onondaga County Hotel Room Occupancy Tax Law (ROT) permits the County to collect a five percent room rental tax on the per diem rental charge. In 2016, Onondaga County collected ROT of \$6.5M and in 2017, collected \$6.6M from 110 operators. Comptroller Beadnell's audit focused on ensuring that operators were accurately reporting all required ROT to the Commissioner of Finance.

Comptroller Beadnell said, "Our report found that thirty-three of the fifty-one hotel/motels examined were not in compliance and Onondaga County is due \$326,043. This is significant revenue for the taxpayers of Onondaga County." Beadnell continued, "Thank you to my staff for their work on this report and to County Finance Department for their assistance as well."

County Executive McMahon said, "Room Occupancy Tax is an important source of revenue for Onondaga County. We use those funds to reinvest back in our community to gain more convention businesses, support our arts and continue to make Onondaga County a great place to live, work and play." McMahon continued, "Thank you to Comptroller Beadnell and his team for their partnership in making sure that everyone is paying their fair share."

The complete report may be found at http://ongov.net/comptroller/documents/ROTAuditReport.pdf.