



Comptroller's Office Mid-Term Review

Over the past two years, audits completed by the Office of the Nassau County Comptroller have identified over \$23 million in waste, fraud, abuse, and inefficiency and recovered \$7.6 million in taxpayer dollars. These results, along with others, stem from the establishment of four critical priorities for the Comptroller's Office:

1 Opening and Modernizing Nassau County Finances



Open Nassau Transparency Portal (opennassau.nassaucountyny.gov)

A robust open data platform to modernize the County's finances and make them easily accessible to the public. The Open Nassau Transparency Portal includes: Open Checkbook, Open Payroll, Open Budget, and Open Finance.



The Comptroller's Scorecard

A data-driven transparency dashboard that displays the key indicators the Comptroller's Office utilizes to measure Nassau County's fiscal health.

2 Smart Audits to Ask Tough Questions

Focusing on Results

In 2018, our team implemented a new policy establishing a follow-up review of our audits. The new follow-up procedure provides updates, increases accessibility for taxpayers and ensures that the corrective actions recommended in the audits are implemented.

One of the key priorities of the Comptroller is the focus on conducting smart audits that produce results. Since taking office, the Comptroller's Office can point to

**\$23
million**

Identified In waste, fraud, abuse, and inefficiency

11

Completed Audits

**\$7.6
million**

Recovered in taxpayer dollars

279

Audit Recommendations

\$275,899

Identified and recovered for employees covered by the Living Wage Law

Nepotism Audit

The first chapter on the Nassau County Board of Ethics was released in 2019. As a result, the Board of Ethics has implemented many of our audit recommendations to improve its major mission of education to prevent ethical missteps.

The Board of Ethics has already implemented the following recommendations from our Nepotism Audit:



- ✓ Improved Board of Ethics website to make it more informative and visible;
- ✓ Ensured full membership of Board of Ethics;
- ✓ County-wide ethics training including nepotism;
- ✓ Implemented an electronic filing for financial disclosure forms;
- ✓ Issued the required annual report.

3

Clean Up and Reform County Contracting

In 2019, the Comptroller's Office has implemented a number of efficiencies to decrease the amount of time it takes for critical review of payment claims to be completed, while also enhancing oversight:

65,099

Claims were approved by the Comptroller's Office

16%

Increase in approved claims per year, accounting for increase in volume

99%

Claims approval rate resulting from standardizing review process and enhancement of oversight

Electronic Claims & Vendor Portal

The new vendor claims process eliminates paperwork, enabling vendors to submit claims electronically through an online portal and have them reviewed and approved electronically by County Departments and the Comptroller's Office. These changes make doing business with Nassau more transparent and business-friendly while allowing for even greater oversight.

4

Report It, Reform It (ReportitReformit@nassaucountyny.gov)

Driving Reforms to Eliminate Waste, Fraud, Abuse, and Inefficiency

The "Report It, Reform It" program provides a resource for the public so that they can directly engage with the Comptroller's Office on reforming government.

The "Report It, Reform It" tip-line was recognized with an Achievement Award by the National Association of Counties (NACo) in 2018.

Living Wage Hotline: 516-571-WAGE

The multilingual living wage hotline expands access for those wishing to report county vendors who are not in compliance with the Living Wage Law.

Policy and Research Unit

In 2019, the Comptroller's Office launched a Policy and Research Unit to dive deeper into the challenges that impact different segments of our population and look at what we call "the deal" of living in Nassau County.

For a lot of people in Nassau County, the deal isn't quite adding up. Our Policy and Research Unit dives into the numbers and best practices from around the country so that we can transform 20th century policies and ideas to meet the needs of the 21st century's next generation.