



NASSAU COUNTY COMPTROLLER

ELAINE PHILLIPS

240 Old Country Rd 2nd Fl., Mineola, NY 11501

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Media Contact: Wendy L. Goldstein
wgoldstein@nassaucountyny.gov
516.571.2478

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 1, 2023**

Nassau County Comptroller's Office to Return \$1.5 Million to the Taxpayers of Glen Cove

MINEOLA, NY – On Monday, May 1, 2023, Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips presented checks symbolic of refunds totaling \$1,583,000 to the City of Glen Cove and the Glen Cove City School District. The refunds, which resolve Glen Cove's accidental overpayment of Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs) to the County from 2010 to 2021, are the result of proactive problem solving by Glen Cove Mayor Pamela D. Panzenbeck and the Nassau County Comptroller's Office, with the support of Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman.

When Glen Cove Mayor Panzenbeck took office in January 2022, she learned that the City of Glen Cove had been overpaying its PILOTs to Nassau County, while underpaying its school district, for more than a decade. An effort by the previous Glen Cove administration to recover the overpayments was unsuccessful, so Mayor Panzenbeck made a phone call to the office of Elaine Phillips, Nassau County Comptroller.

"My staff and I were happy to meet with County Executive Blakeman and Mayor Panzenbeck to discuss the issue," said Comptroller Phillips. "We heard the Mayor's concerns and promised to look into the situation. Once we were clear on the details, we were determined to resolve the problem for the taxpayers of Glen Cove."

The City of Glen Cove collects and distributes PILOTs from the Glen Cove Industrial Development Agency (IDA) and distributes them within the City and its School District, and to the County. After a New York State audit, followed by an internal audit, officials in the previous Glen Cove administration discovered the incorrect distribution of these funds over ten years.

Thanks to the teamwork of Mayor Panzenbeck and Comptroller Phillips and her office, and the support of County Executive Blakeman, refunds of \$778,000 to the City of Glen Cove and \$805,000 to the Glen Cove School District were approved by the Nassau County Legislature on April 24, 2023.

About the Comptroller's Office

Comptroller Elaine Phillips is the independent protector of the taxpayers and residents of Nassau County. With a population of almost 1.4 million people and an annual budget of approximately \$4 billion, Nassau County relies on Comptroller Phillips and her dedicated staff to monitor Nassau's budget and financial operations. The Comptroller's Office reports on matters that affect Nassau's financial health, proactively advocates for operational efficiency on behalf of the taxpayers, and audits government departments and outside agencies that do business with the county to uncover and prevent waste, fraud, and inefficiency. Each year, the Comptroller's Office reviews thousands of contracts and reviews and approves approximately 100,000 payments to more than 3,800 registered vendors. The Comptroller's office also administers payroll and health benefits for the County's 8,000 employees, 12,000 retirees and their dependents for a total of 50,000 covered lives.

For more information about the activities of the Nassau County Comptroller's Office, visit www.nassaucountyny.gov/1590/County-Comptroller email nccomptroller@nassaucountyny.gov.

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