

# COUNTY EXECUTIVE - 1230

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the County Executive is to ensure the efficient operation and delivery of high-quality services to Albany County residents.

## WHO WE SERVE

Albany County government serves a population of 304,204 as per the 2010 census. Residents are spread out over three cities, six villages and ten towns in an area that covers 582 square miles.

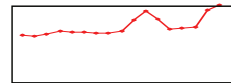
## ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT

The County Executive is the Chief Executive Officer of County government, elected by the voters of Albany County to a four-year term of office. Responsibilities of the Office include directing, coordinating and monitoring the activities of all County administrative units under the County Executive's control: appointing administrative heads of departments; approving and executing contracts and agreements for the County as authorized; directing the creation of the Tentative Annual Budget; maintaining communications with federal, state and local governments; and directing special projects requiring coordination among County departments.

## 2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

- Finding a solution for the Albany County Nursing Home, which is costing taxpayers \$1,000,000/month to operate the facility. The County Executive proposed to lease the facility to Upstate Services Group to protect our seniors by providing a safety net, protecting our taxpayers and accepting financial responsibility. When the Legislature failed to act on that proposal, the County Executive agreed to hire a Nursing Home Executive Director while a Local Development Corporation is formed which will then deal with the operation of the facility.
- Key settlements were reached with six unions on contracts that cover seven years.
- The County Executive achieved a settlement enabling all county employees furloughed in 2009 to receive one hour of paid time off for each hour of furloughed time taken. Roughly 1,200 employees would receive this benefit .
- In January, the County Executive announced a partnership with Schenectady County Community College that will bring approximately 1,000 students to 112 State Street to take classes on the second floor of the county office building beginning January 2014. This will bring an economic boost to the downtown area and help the county in its continuing efforts to pay lower community college chargeback costs.
- Emphasizing the importance of partnerships, the County Executive successfully partnered with many agencies and organizations to help and educate Albany County residents. They include:
  - A safe sleeping campaign with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, the NYS Department of Health and the county's Department of Children, Youth and Families was launched with formation of a task force and media campaign in the Greater Albany area;
  - Hands-only CPR campaign with all county Emergency Medical personnel and the American Heart Association to provide free training in the lifesaving technique;
  - Bus campaign with the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office involving the danger of using prescription drugs and then driving; and
  - Clothe-a-homeless hero program with the Albany International Airport, TSA and HATAS (Homeless and Travelers Aid Society) to get clothing that is left behind at airport security check points to homeless veterans.
- Focusing on his commitment to children, the County Executive partnered with Albany County Sheriff Craig

## APPROPRIATION HISTORY



1998:	\$635,739
1999:	\$612,479
2000:	\$673,982
2001:	\$768,997
2002:	\$759,970
2003:	\$730,427
2004:	\$716,523
2005:	\$707,534
2006:	\$792,332
2007:	\$1,143,368
2008:	\$1,452,335
2009:	\$1,188,037
2010:	\$851,540
2011:	\$870,529
2012:	\$913,097
2013:	\$1,492,113
2014:	\$1,667,049

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Apple and Albany County District Attorney David Soares to clean up and re-open Lawson Lake to the public. This summer, it served as a day camp for kids in partnership with local non-profits and CDTA.

- The County Executive has convened several meetings with municipalities in Albany County to encourage streamlining and greater efficiencies through collaboration and consolidation of services. A grant has been received for a countywide shared highway services study.
- The County Executive visited all Albany County municipalities this year with his State of the County tour.
- Albany County has continued its efforts on its Green Initiative with an Executive Order establishing Team Green to examine county processes and recommend ways to become more energy efficient. This has resulted in:
  - Personal paper recycling bins to be distributed throughout the county for use by employees;
  - A Reuse and Recycling partnership with HATAS and United Way of the Greater Capital Region to take away and dispose of old ink cartridges at no cost to the county;
  - Use of the C.A.L.M. system developed by the Albany County Dept. of Information Services to greatly improve daily workflow throughout the County. This system allows for cutting edge technology that has resulted in increased efficiency and taxpayer savings;
  - A program to implement recycling at work by all county employees of all recyclable materials allowed in Albany County;
- To promote open and transparent government, Albany County launched its new website which is easier to navigate and provides access to more information for all users.
- To streamline auction sales and increase efficiencies, Albany County launched an online auction process for foreclosed properties. The effort improves auction sales by allowing bidders to be pre-screened before submitting a bid, allowing them to use forms to provide more extensive submission plans and familiarize themselves with neighborhoods as well as provide their financial ability to complete the project. It also simplifies the process for non-profits.
- Albany County's commitment to veterans highlighted increased partnerships and communications in a variety of ways:
  - Partnership with PG's Café, Best Cleaners and HATAS on Katie's Coats which collected over 1,200 coats for the homeless and homeless veterans in the month of January alone;
  - Outreach to all homeowners by Albany County's Veterans Service Bureau about the Veterans Tax Exemption deadline March 1<sup>st</sup>. The exemption applied to all veterans and Gold Star parents; and
  - Continued work with Soldier On to pave the way for housing for returning veterans.
- Under a new Investigations Unit created by the County Executive, Albany County has saved over \$100k through billing audits.
- Our DSS Welfare Fraud Unit has worked with the Investigations Unit above to conduct investigations which have resulted in fraud arrests made by the Albany County Sheriff's Office totaling over \$142,000 this year.
- Our DSS Welfare Fraud Unit has identified more than \$270,000 in funds for recovery from cases closed due to fraudulent claims for child care through the county's DSS.
- Lowered our deficit to \$10.9 million.
- Achieved a 2014 Executive Budget which meets the 1.66% property tax cap.

## 2014 GOALS AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS

- The County Executive has diversified the work force, putting more women and people of color in managerial positions than ever before and will continue to create a workforce that is representative of the County's diverse population.
- Continue to further our Team Green initiative with a goal of becoming the greenest county in New York State.

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- Continue work to improve fiscal management through consolidation of redundant departmental functions
- Integrate agencies to allow management of the human service talent pool in a way that could maximize cross-training opportunities and help to ensure that staff is always available to meet critical needs.
- Continue to work with Soldier On, a non-profit that assists veterans in a re-entry to society through job and skills training, health and mental health facilities, educational opportunities and a dedicated network of former servicemen and women.
- Establish the Albany County Local Development Corporation, allowing Albany County greater flexibility in creating opportunity to foster economic growth.
- Creating additional internships with local colleges, including the University at Albany, to introduce students to government and human services work. These internships help establish a pool of talent familiar with Albany County's systems when existing employees leave.
- Further analyze and review Albany County's financial commitment in underwriting student tuition costs for community colleges at the expense of taxpayers. This process will include the creation of partnerships with neighboring municipal governments and other institutions of higher education to alleviate what is a \$10 million burden for 2012 and continues to grow annually.

The County Executive took his office on the road this summer to make it easier for residents in outlying areas of Albany County to be heard. He held office hours in Berne, Knox, Westerlo, Rensselaerville and Coeymans.

				2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2014	2014	
A 1230 County Executive				Count	Count	Expended	Adjusted	Requested	Proposed	Adopted	
<b>Personnel Services Individual</b>											
A	1230	10100 001	170001	County Executive	1	1	\$118,317	\$118,317	\$118,317	\$125,559	-
A	1230	11352 001	170003	Director of Communications	1	1	\$58,750	\$67,626	\$82,500	\$82,500	-
A	1230	11810 001	170004	Deputy County Executive	1	1	\$104,887	\$111,187	\$113,411	\$113,411	-
A	1230	11922 001	170005	Director of Operations	1	1	\$83,640	\$100,069	\$102,071	\$102,071	-
A	1230	11923 001	170019	Director Of Research	1	1	\$53,365	\$64,505	\$65,795	\$65,795	-
A	1230	12550 001	170006	Senior Policy Analyst	1	1	\$30,769	\$72,838	\$81,785	\$81,785	-
A	1230	12550 002	170018	Senior Policy Analyst	1	1	\$57,160	\$64,505	\$65,795	\$65,795	-
A	1230	12551 003	170009	Senior Policy Analyst	1	1	\$41,850	\$47,618	\$55,000	\$55,000	-
A	1230	12559 001	170002	Special Assist.to Executive	1	1	\$28,846	\$41,586	\$42,418	\$42,418	-
A	1230	12560 001	170020	Senior Grant Writer	1	1	\$36,942	\$57,222	\$58,367	\$58,367	-
A	1230	14130 001	170021	Investigator	1	1	\$11,567	\$45,000	\$47,755	\$47,755	-
A	1230	14130 002	170022	Investigator	1	1	\$22,115	\$52,020	\$53,061	\$53,061	-
A	1230	15506 001	170011	Executive Assistant	1	1	\$45,434	\$47,618	\$48,571	\$48,571	-
A	1230	16401 003	170012	Confidential Secretary	1	1	\$34,216	\$47,618	\$48,571	\$48,571	-
				<i>Personnel Services Individual Subtotal</i>	14	14	\$727,861	\$937,729	\$983,417	\$990,659	\$0

				2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2014	2014
A 1230 County Executive				Count	Count	Expended	Adjusted	Requested	Proposed	Adopted
Personnel Non-Individual										
A	1230	19942	County Intern Program			\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
A	1230	19950	Longevity Raise			\$3,100	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
A	1230	19951	Health Insurance Buyout			\$3,917	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
A	1230	19970	Temporary Help			\$3,010	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Personnel Non-Individual Subtotal</i>						\$10,027	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Equipment										
Contractual Expenses										
A	1230	44020	Office Supplies			\$2,452	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
A	1230	44035	Postage			\$803	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
A	1230	44036	Telephone			\$4,235	\$2,930	\$2,930	\$2,930	\$0
A	1230	44037	Insurance			\$2,734	\$3,224	\$3,233	\$3,233	\$0
A	1230	44039	Conferences/Training/Tuition			\$0	\$430	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
A	1230	44040	Books/Transcripts/Subscripts			\$2,111	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
A	1230	44042	Printing And Advertising			\$2,700	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0
A	1230	44046	Fees For Services			\$0	\$12,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$0
A	1230	44070	Equipment Repair And Rental			\$2,700	\$2,870	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
A	1230	44090	Incubator Funding			\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
A	1230	44300	Association Dues			\$0	\$17,606	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
A	1230	44903	DGS Shared Services Charges			\$42,213	\$46,421	\$47,326	\$47,326	\$0
<i>Contractual Expenses Subtotal</i>						\$59,947	\$196,981	\$206,989	\$206,989	\$0
Fringe Benefits										
A	1230	89010	State Retirement			\$86,386	\$210,345	\$208,642	\$208,642	\$0
A	1230	89030	Social Security			\$56,126	\$72,115	\$77,068	\$77,068	\$0
A	1230	89060	Hospital and Medical Insurance			\$55,327	\$80,443	\$163,691	\$163,691	\$0
<i>Fringe Benefits Subtotal</i>						\$197,839	\$362,903	\$449,401	\$449,401	\$0
<b>Total Appropriations</b>						<b>\$994,355</b>	<b>\$1,502,567</b>	<b>\$1,659,807</b>	<b>\$1,667,049</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Revenue</b>										
A	1230	02770	Other Unclassified Revenue			(\$177)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue</b>						<b>(\$177)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>County Share</b>						<b>\$994,178</b>	<b>\$1,502,567</b>	<b>\$1,659,807</b>	<b>\$1,667,049</b>	<b>\$0</b>