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Office of the Nassau County Comptroller

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Living Wage Audit of Healthcare Agency Identifies \$220,000 in Underpayments for 147 Employees

Review between 2014-2015 found underpayments, overscheduling, and earned time off never paid to employees

MINEOLA, NY – Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman today, alongside the Nassau County Living Wage Advisory Board, released a living wage audit of home healthcare agency All Metro that found it underpaid employees more than \$200,000 in 2014 and 2015.

Auditors found that All Metro, which has several offices in Nassau County and specializes in home healthcare services, underpaid 147 employees a total of \$220,000 in salary and paid time off.

The Nassau County Living Wage Law was enacted to raise the minimum wage of employees of most vendors with County service contracts.

“These workers protect and care for some of the most vulnerable populations in the County, and they deserve to be paid their hard-earned wages,” Schnirman said. “Audits with findings as stark as these serve as a reminder and warning to companies that they must follow the letter of the Living Wage Law if they want to do business with Nassau County.”

This audit also found incomplete payroll data and significant errors for how 147 employees were overscheduled in breach of their contract.

“I commend the work of our auditors who continue to break open the books and hold County vendors accountable,” Schnirman said. “Instances like this are unacceptable; that’s why employees need to know their voice matters, and they have an advocate fighting for them. I encourage all employees concerned about issues like these to call our Living Wage Hotline at 516-571-WAGE for more information or to provide our investigative team with tips.”

The Office of the Nassau County Comptroller will be following up with All Metro in six months to ensure they are complying with the Living Wage Law and have paid back the salary and compensated time off owed to the 147 employees.

Since the Living Wage Law became effective in 2007, the Office of the Nassau County Comptroller has released 43 Living Wage audit reports encompassing 33 different contractors. Overall, the Office of the Nassau County Comptroller has identified a total of \$1,359,005 in underpaid wages and unpaid time off affecting 1,590 employees.

“Workers need to know their voices are being heard and that, in addition to their union, their local elected officials are also willing to stand up to help protect them,” said Onika Shepherd, Political Director of 1199SEIU and Living Wage Advisory Board member. “I commend the work of the Comptroller and auditors for asking questions and holding the company accountable to the men and women who do the work.”

Strengthening living wage protections has been a priority for the Comptroller’s Office in 2018, with the Living Wage Advisory Board meeting regularly to review compliance with the living wage law. More living wage audits are ongoing, which in part are driven by increased call volume to the hotline.