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**Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman Marks 100 Days in
Office: Announces Launch of County-Wide Nepotism Audit**

Releases Findings Related to County's Culture of Corruption and Fiscal Crisis

MINEOLA, NY – Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman today marked his 100th day in office by announcing the launch of his county-wide nepotism audit aimed at investigating how a culture of concealment and corruption led to nepotism and patronage in hiring and staff management practices.

“We are going to use this audit to develop a comprehensive set of reform-oriented recommendations that will ensure the mistakes of the past can’t be repeated in the future,” Schnirman said. “The reputation of Nassau County government has taken a hit due to the recent corruption scandals and we are facing big problems. We need the best, professional, and most qualified people to join with us to solve those problems.”

On April 9, the Office of the Nassau County Comptroller delivered audit entrance letters to the Office of Human Resources and the Civil Service Commission outlining its initial plans. As part of the audit, the county’s employment processes will be examined to ensure fairness in hiring. It will involve research into instances of employees supervising family members and look into how a situation like that was allowed to happen in the first place.

“Working for Nassau County has to be about public service, and the civil service system here needs to support that goal,” Schnirman said. “It should be about giving back, not about taking. There are good people doing great work throughout Nassau County. They deserve to be supported and surrounded by others who can do the same.”

The audit will move through the county in stages, examining specific departmental operations.

In addition to announcing the release of the nepotism audit, Schnirman today released a series of facts and findings developed by his office during the first 100 days of his administration. The findings included examples of decentralized operations by different county departments, woefully outdated software resulting in hundreds of staff hours wasted, and tens of millions of dollars spent on software upgrades over the past eight years that have not been implemented.

“We arrived at these findings by asking the tough questions,” Schnirman said. “Whether it is engaging in an audit, paying out a claim or approving payroll, we have a right to ask questions with the goal of getting at the truth.”

That approach will carry over to the contracting process. Schnirman, on Monday, announced his office would begin working with the County Executive's office to require that all vendors disclose on an official form whether they paid money or used family influence to secure a contract. Lying on these forms would be considered a criminal act.

To help change the way Nassau County government operates, Schnirman announced today he would be convening an Advisory Committee on Reimagining Government. It will be a group of business and civic leaders that have no financial ties to the county. The task force will be charged with creating a comprehensive approach aimed at modernizing the way the county does business.

Nassau County's current inefficient processes have real-world impacts, particularly on its nonprofit partners. The county relies on these organizations to help serve the county's neediest residents and help deal with serious issues such as the opioid crisis. Delays in payment processing and the repetitive paperwork these groups need to fill out hamper the ability to operate efficiently.

During his next 100 days in office, Schnirman will be touring different Nassau County departments and agencies to learn more about their operations and how their work impacts the county's bottom line. He will use these opportunities to promote the Comptroller Office's Report It, Reform It email tip line. (ReportItReformIt@NassauCountyNY.gov)

"We are doing all this work so Nassau County can get to a place where it can invest its resources into programs and services people care about," Schnirman said. "My office will continue to push Nassau County forward as we restore accountability to government."