



## State of Tennessee

Justin P. Wilson, State Comptroller

For Immediate Release: Oct. 20, 2010

### **Comptroller's Division of Municipal Audit Detects Nearly \$900,000 in Theft Over Two-Year Time Period**

The Comptroller's Division of Municipal Audit has documented \$894,732.06 in thefts from local governments, utility districts and other taxpayer-funded organizations during the last two budget years.

During the two-year period that ended June 30, the division issued 43 investigative reports. In 31 of those cases, auditors found and documented evidence that fraud had been committed.

Twenty-seven of those 31 cases led to some type of criminal prosecution against those responsible for the fraud. In the overwhelming majority of cases, the people responsible for the fraud were indicted, pleaded guilty or agreed to accept court-ordered diversion.

The thefts ranged from a few thousand dollars in some cases to more than \$300,000 in one instance.

The division's investigative reports are available for review at:

[http://www.comptroller1.state.tn.us/RA\\_MA\\_Financial/Report\\_Investigative.aspx](http://www.comptroller1.state.tn.us/RA_MA_Financial/Report_Investigative.aspx)

"I am very proud of the excellent work our auditors have done in detecting fraud, waste and abuse in local government," Comptroller Justin P. Wilson said. "People who are expected to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars should not abuse their positions of public trust. If they do, they can be assured that our auditors will be looking for them."

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Media contact: Blake Fontenay, Communications Director, (615) 253-2668 or [blake.fontenay@tn.gov](mailto:blake.fontenay@tn.gov)

[Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury](#)  
State Capitol Nashville, TN 37243  
Phone: (615) 741-2501  
Email: [comptroller.web@tn.gov](mailto:comptroller.web@tn.gov)