



# State of Tennessee

**Justin P. Wilson, State Comptroller**

For Immediate Release: April 13, 2011

## **Comptroller Releases Annual Cash Shortage Report**

More than \$700,000 of taxpayer money was stolen from county governments across Tennessee during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2010.

Details about the missing money are available in the Comptroller's annual report on cash shortages and other thefts, which was released today.

Information about the cash shortages is taken from the annual financial reports and special reports for Tennessee's 89 county governments audited by the Comptroller's Division of County Audit and for six counties audited by private accounting firms.

In addition to providing information about the amounts of the cash shortages in each county, the report also provides explanations about how the shortages were discovered, why they occurred, what steps have been taken to correct the problems and any judicial actions resulting from the cash shortages.

"These cases of theft are disappointing," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "It is particularly frustrating because many times thefts could have been avoided if the counties had better procedures for money handling and record keeping. These procedures, which our auditors refer to as 'internal controls,' are essential for government officials who want to be good stewards of their taxpayers' money."

The cash shortage report can be viewed online at:

<http://www.comptroller1.state.tn.us/repository/CA/2010/cash%20shortage%20report.pdf>

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