Joseph A. Mihalko, County Clerk

Christopher P. Dziedzic, Executive Deputy County Clerk Rosalie A. Catalano, Deputy County Clerk Frances Martin-Childs, Deputy County Clerk Darlene R. Croston, Deputy County Clerk Elizabeth T. Hansen, Deputy County Clerk

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Clerk Mihalko Speaks Out Against Another Unfunded Mandate

County Clerk Joseph Mihalko is once again leading the charge against unfunded State mandates. The latest travesty out of Albany will impact all new home buyers. A.440A/S.5372 requires additional costly notices be mailed out when any new deed is recorded.

"This legislation seeks to fight fraud, but will only result in increased closing costs for home buyers and an unfunded mandate on County Clerk Offices. There are many times, when the property seller isn't at the address listed on the deed, and it can be very cumbersome and time consuming to obtain a correct address for them. The bill requires certain archaic property identifiers, such as Block and Lot numbers, which are items not currently used in the County Clerk's office, and often not found in deeds. Why New York State lawmakers decided to impose another burden that will impact new home buyers, realtors and real estate attorneys is beyond me. I commend Senator Akshar and Assemblyman Crouch for having the foresight to vote "No." I'm working with my fellow County Clerks and our statewide organization, the New York State Association of County Clerks (NYSACC) to oppose this unfunded mandate and make sure Governor Cuomo does the same!"

Local residents are encouraged to voice their strong opposition to A.440A and S.5372 by calling the Governor's office at (518) 474-8390 or visiting www.governor.ny.gov/contact.

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