

Biography – Andrew SanFilippo – City Comptroller

Andrew SanFilippo first joined the City of Buffalo Comptroller's office in 1973 as Assistant to then-Comptroller George D. O'Connell—a job vacated by the late Tim Russert. In 1980 he was named Investment and Debt Management Officer, responsible for the day-to-day management of the city's cash expenditures and the investment of the idle funds for both the City and the Board of Education. As Debt Management Officer he administered the City's General Fund, Capital Projects and Debt Service Funds, the issuance of short and long-term notes and bonds, provided cash flow forecasting, and administered investment of funds for the Buffalo Water Board and Authority, Buffalo Sewer Authority, and Solid Waste. In 2003, he was designated acting City Comptroller, after the departure of Anthony Nanula to join the office of then-State Comptroller Alan Hevesi.

In 2004, Mr. SanFilippo won election as Buffalo City Comptroller after serving one year as acting comptroller. In November 2007 he ran unopposed, winning re-election to a second four-year term.

SanFilippo had a strong record of earning high returns on city investments as the cash and debt manager under four comptrollers; his strong fiscal oversight has helped the city to steadily increase its fund balance since 2002-2003. As an experienced cash manager, he understands complex issues related to public finance and the Wall Street investment and banking community, and has proven to be an effective fiscal watchdog for Buffalo and its school district, with a combined budget of \$1 billion over the last six years.

Most recently, Comptroller SanFilippo reported that the city ended the '08-'09 fiscal year with a total fund balance of \$138.8 million, up nearly \$5 million from the previous year's record increase.

In addition, Comptroller SanFilippo has helped structure a \$33 million rainy day fund, achieved three critical credit rating upgrades for the City over the last two years, and continued his capital debt management plan that has helped reduce the City's long-term bonded indebtedness.

Post-9/11 fiscal challenges led to the creation of a control board, but SanFilippo won praise from the Buffalo News for his independence and his role in the city's emergence from those challenges.

The Comptroller serves as a member of the city's Joint Schools Construction Board, overseeing the one billion dollar reconstruction and rehabilitating Buffalo's aging school system. It is the largest project of its kind in the city's history.

Mr. SanFilippo is a member of several community, civic and government financial organizations, including:

- Director of NYS Municipal Bond Bank Agency
- Director of NYS Tobacco Settlement Financing Agency
- Board Member of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery
- Director of NYS Society of Municipal Finance Officers
- Director of NYS Government Finance Officers Association – Western Region
- Member NYS Government Finance Officers Association
- Member National Government Finance Officers Association
- Member New York Conference of Mayors
- Former member of Investment and Banking Committee of GFOA
- 30+ years experience in City of Buffalo Comptroller’s Office
- Former member of the Community Action Organization

Mr. SanFilippo has a bachelor's degree from Brockport State College. He is a 1969 graduate of Kenmore East, and served as class president during his senior year. He is a proud life-long resident of Western New York, and a strong advocate for its many cultural, sports, educational and recreational amenities.