



ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

HON. JOHN J. MILLS
11TH DISTRICT LEGISLATOR
MINORITY LEADER

November 26, 2025

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street
4th Floor Buffalo, New York 14202

Chairman Meyers,

I respectfully request that the Erie County Comptroller's audit report concerning the Bureau of Fleet Services be referred to the Finance and Management Committee for immediate review. The findings reveal serious issues in fleet management and oversight that warrant our attention in the Legislature.

The major findings include:

- **365 VEHICLES UNACCOUNTED FOR:** Three hundred sixty-five County vehicles could not be located or verified in either SAP or Enterprise lease records—a complete failure of basic asset tracking.
- **FUEL SYSTEM CONTROLS COMPROMISED:** Weak controls in the EKOS/Gasboy fuel system include missing authorizations, inaccurate data, and lack of oversight. Most alarmingly, fuel transactions were recorded under names of employees who had already retired or resigned—a clear indicator of potential fuel theft.
- **UNAUTHORIZED TAKE-HOME VEHICLES:** Significant noncompliance with authorization requirements for 24-hour take-home vehicles.
- **MISSING GPS TRACKING:** Only 42% of take-home vehicles have required GPS devices installed, despite a 2016 legislative resolution mandating installation following a prior fuel theft investigation.

- **IMPOSSIBLE FUEL AND MILEAGE DATA:** Gasboy recorded 14,503 MORE fuel transactions year to year. That's almost 40 additional fill-ups per day, yet total reported mileage DECLINED by 9.6 million miles. It would appear employees are completely fabricating readings. How did nobody in Budget or Comptroller's Office catch this in real-time?

This is not the first time these issues have surfaced. In 2016, a whistleblower complaint substantiated fuel theft by County employees. Despite legislative action then to install GPS tracking and enhance security, this audit reveals those corrective measures were never fully implemented or have deteriorated.

The findings suggest it's possible, perhaps even likely, that Erie County taxpayers are being defrauded through fuel theft, hundreds of vehicles worth millions cannot be accounted for, and employees may be receiving improper tax-free benefits without proper authorization.

These are extremely serious allegations demanding immediate action. I respectfully request this matter be placed on the earliest possible Finance and Management Committee agenda, and that appropriate County officials, including the Commissioner of Public Works, Fleet Services Manager, and Comptroller, be directed to appear and provide explanations and an immediate plan to address the issues laid out in the audit.

The taxpayers of Erie County deserve accountability. I urge my colleagues to treat this matter with the urgency it deserves.

Respectfully,



John Mills
Minority Leader, Erie County Legislature