



ERIE COUNTY COMPTROLLER
KEVIN R. HARDWICK

December 4, 2025

Vallie Ferraraccio, Director
Erie County Bureau of Purchase
95 Franklin St, Room 1254
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Sheriff's Office Second Helicopter Delivery

Dear Ms. Ferraraccio:

Today, my office was made aware that arrangements are underway with the Sheriff's Office for delivery of the second H125 Airbus helicopter from Davenport Aviation.

As you well know, I have expressed serious misgivings about the procurement process which was undertaken to secure one, and then later, two new helicopters without sufficient communication to, or input from my office and the Legislature.

Be that as it may, my office is prepared to remit payment to Davenport for this purchase under the terms of the purchase agreement you have executed which indicates a regular "30 Business Day" payment cycle.

In the meantime, we plan to continue to do our due diligence when it comes to assessing available funds to outfit such helicopters and determining necessary costs the County may very well incur in the absence of federal funding. Any information you may have concerning these items, such as the upfitting/outfitting costs of the helicopters, would be very helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K.R. Hardwick", is written over a horizontal line.

Kevin R. Hardwick, Ph.D.
Erie County Comptroller

cc: Erie County Sheriff John Garcia
Director of Budget and Management Mark Cornell
Erie County Legislature