



**NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF
ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 14, 2011

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**IMPROVEMENTS AT THE ULSTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LAUDED BY
THE CHAIR OF THE ULSTER COUNTY HEALTH BOARD**

Kingston – In a letter to County Executive Mike Hein, Dr. Thomas V. Stellato, the Chairman of the Ulster County Health Board commended the Ulster County Health Department for its “exemplary performance.” According to Dr. Stellato, Ulster County Health Board members have noticed significant improvements at the Health Department during the past year.

“The Board has witnessed a significant improvement in the transparency and accountability of the Department over the past year,” said Chairman of the Ulster County Health Board Thomas V. Stellato, MD FACS. “State reviews and audits have all been complimentary and represent a marked difference from prior years.”

“Chairman Stellato has confirmed something that I have known for quite some time, we have an outstanding team of professionals at our County Health Department,” said Ulster County Executive Mike Hein. “The Ulster County Department of Health is changing and it is changing for the better. Overhauling a Health Department structure that was previously broken and moving on a new path to becoming the healthiest County in all of New York State has been our goal all along. It is extremely rewarding to have Dr. Stellato acknowledge our achievements at the Ulster County Health Department.”

“I applaud the work of Dr. Hasbrouck and the Ulster County Health Department,” said Chairman of the Health and Human Services Legislative Committee, Walter Frey. “The transformation of the Ulster County Health Department has been astounding. Dr. Hasbrouck has demonstrated the commitment of Ulster County to bringing efficiency and accountability into County government.”

Attachment 1: Dr. Stellato Letter

February 14, 2010

Michael P. Hein
County Executive
PO Box 1800
Kingston, NY 12401

Dear Mr. Hein,

The Board of Health would like to commend the exemplary performance of the Ulster County Health Department under the supervision of Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck and his staff.

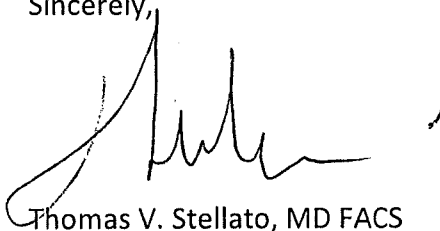
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Recently the NYSDOH reported to Mr. Dumond regarding the Ulster County municipal health services plan. The State found that the County Environmental Health Programs are in compliance and are "meeting the obligations of that plan."

Also, a recent review of the Residential and Engineering Programs was conducted by the State. In a report to Ms. Mertens, the NYSDOH stated that the Ulster County Health Department "meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements" of the plan. Also the State found the staff was "knowledgeable and experienced in dealing with all aspects involved in running a residential sanitation and engineering program."

The Board appreciates the results achieved by the Department. The Board looks forward to continue working with Dr. Hasbrouck, and will continue to provide effective oversight for the Health Department.

Sincerely,



Thomas V. Stellato, MD FACS

cc: Walter G. Frey, Jr., Health and Human Services Chairman
LaMar Hasbrouck, UC Public Health Director