

For Immediate Release  
Thursday, July 5, 2007

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## **MCWA RECEIVES STATE PRAISE FOR SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

In a New York State report recently issued regarding the Monroe County Water Authority's security and emergency preparedness, the State found that the Water Authority has "demonstrated the most advanced security program of any utility surveyed by the security inspection team to date". The audit was issued by the New York State Department of Health at the behest of the New York State Comptroller.

"The State's findings clearly show that the Monroe County Water Authority leads the way in providing a safe and reliable supply of public drinking water to our community, and offering residents and firefighters alike the finest protection against the destructive power of fire" said Edward Marianetti, MCWA's Executive Director.

New York State's Department of Health regulates all public water supplies in New York State, both municipally and private owned and operated. The agency began its evaluations of the State's water purveyors in the past year, and their team of security experts conducted an extensive on-site review of the Water Authority's physical security measures, standard operating procedures and emergency preparedness.

Jack Dunn, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Water Supply Protection in Albany stated in the audit that the Water Authority's "...proactive approach to emergency preparedness and security" allowed it to "develop one of the most comprehensive water security programs in New York State".

Marianetti noted that "It takes a consistent team effort of dedicated employees to achieve such high praises from the agency primarily responsible for the regulations protecting our public water supplies. We are proud of these results, and will remain ever vigilant."

The Water Authority serves over 600,000 people in Monroe and portions of each of the five surrounding counties.

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