



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2015

CONTACT: Amie M. Downs
412-350-3711 office
412-327-3700 cell
Amie.Downs@AlleghenyCounty.us

Frank J. Lucchino Distinguished Service Award Presented to Robert J. Lentz

PITTSBURGH – County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Allegheny County Manager William D. McKain CPA announced today that the County has presented the Frank J. Lucchino Distinguished Service Award to Mr. Robert (Bob) J. Lentz, Assistant Deputy Controller of Accounting in the Controller’s Office. This is the third Distinguished Service Award presented by the county since the program was re-instituted in early 2013.

“There are certain employees within county government who are the foundation for our day to day operations. They are not the individuals that the general public may know by name or by sight, but they have the institutional knowledge and history to ensure that we can continue to perform the functions that our citizens rely upon each day,” said County Executive Rich Fitzgerald. “Bob Lentz is one of those individuals and the Lucchino Award is a very fitting tribute for the dedication and commitment he has shown. We honor him today for the part he has played in maintaining our governmental accounting and financial reporting standards and commitment to excellence in Allegheny County.”

Mr. Lentz was nominated by Mary Soroka, Director of the Department of Budget & Finance. Citing his outstanding work performance and professionalism, Director Soroka suggested that he should be dubbed the “Father of Accounting” in Allegheny County. Citing a long list of work accomplishments, his nominator also highlighted his long-standing dedication to the county: “Bob served under the namesake of this award for 20 years and represents and embodies the spirit of the award. His sincere commitment to providing the residents of Allegheny County with over 40 years of topnotch service, and his exceptional leadership skills, make him a superior recipient of this award. Bob’s knowledge, integrity and work ethic are unparalleled.”

The Honorable Frank J. Lucchino also attended the presentation: “I am proud and pleased to have worked with a true professional, Bob Lentz. He was an invaluable member of my staff and is very deserving of this recognition.” Judge Lucchino has a long and distinguished career serving the citizens of Allegheny County. For 20 years, he was the county’s elected Controller (1980-2000) before being elected to the Court of Common Pleas. He has served on the bench since 2000 and is currently a Senior Judge on the Court.

Mr. Lentz started with Allegheny County on September 18, 1975 as an Accountant 1 in the office of County Controller Robert B. Friend. Since that time, he has served many roles in our county government including Manager of Technical Review and Audit Manager before becoming the Assistant Deputy Controller of Accounting in May of 1991. A graduate of Central Catholic High School, Bob earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration from Duquesne University and his accounting certificate from the University of Pittsburgh. He has been a licensed CPA since 1985. Bob has worked with the staffs of multiple administrations, both in the home rule and three commissioner forms of government. Currently, there are only 73 individuals with more service time to the county than Bob.

“Public service is the public trust, and no employee better exemplifies those words than Bob Lentz,” County Controller Chelsa Wagner said. “For more than four decades, Bob has been a conscientious steward of the public monies, a loyal friend and colleague, and perhaps most importantly, a mentor to generations of county employees who learned from the best. The value of his guidance and service to me, the entire Controller’s Office staff, and so many throughout county government cannot be overstated.”

Mr. Lentz was surprised at the Courthouse this afternoon where he thought he was attending a mandatory announcement with co-workers in the Gold Room. He was honored by the County Executive, the County Controller, the County Manager and other members of the administration who announced that he was the winner of the 2015 Lucchino Distinguished Service Award. The Honorable Frank Lucchino, the namesake of the Distinguished Service Award, was also on hand to celebrate with Bob. Following remarks, Bob was presented with a joint County proclamation from the County Executive and County Council. Bob also received a county golf pass, a pewter Wendell August Forge plate and will receive a formal plaque with photograph from the presentation.

“I believe it is so appropriate that Bob receive this award, as he represents the ideal attributes associated with this honor. Bob’s outstanding work ethic and his expertise in accounting standards and financial reporting has served our county tremendously for so many years,” said County Manager William D. McKain CPA. “He is the consummate professional and a person of great integrity. As someone who directly benefited from his tutelage and knowledge, I am proud to have him receive this award. It is just a small recognition of a career which has been dedicated to exceptional public service.”

The Frank J. Lucchino Distinguished Service Award was re-instated in 2013 and is presented annually. Additionally, an Exemplary Employee Award was created by the County Manager which is presented four times a year in recognition of exceptional achievements by a county employee or employee group. Written or online nominations may be submitted by anyone:

<http://www.alleghenycounty.us/manager/award.aspx>.

###

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

101 COURTHOUSE • 436 GRANT STREET • PITTSBURGH, PA 15219
PHONE (412) 350-6500 • FAX (412) 350-6512

