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For Information Contact

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## **Picente Appoints Michael J. Romano Director of Oneida County Office for the Aging**

Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr. today announced that he has appointed Michael J. Romano, currently the Assistant Director of the Oneida County Office for the Aging, to become the Director of the Department.

“Mike was selected after a very intensive search effort in which we received many applications for this position and held two rounds of interviews,” Picente said. “Mike has been an outstanding leader in the Office for the Aging, and has an unmatched awareness of the needs of local seniors and the actions the Department can take to bring new ideas and projects into the mix of outstanding programs the Department currently offers.”

Picente said Romano has already demonstrated leadership. “Mike has shown his ability to lead the Office of the Aging through his role since former Director Ken Abramczyk’s retirement. Mike took on all of the responsibilities of a director and continued to move the department forward. He has proven that he is the most capable for the position and is aptly qualified to represent Oneida County in serving the needs of its older residents.”

Michael J. Romano joined the Oneida County Office for the Aging in 1991 as an outreach worker, visiting frail, home-bound elderly residents and helping them to access services. He went on to become the Department’s Outreach Coordinator before serving as the Nutrition Services Coordinator. Since 1998, he has served as the Assistant Director of the Department. He has a Bachelors of Science Degree from SUNY Empire State College, with a Concentration in Health Systems Management, and is pursuing a Master of Arts Degree in Social Policy at SUNY Empire State College with a concentration in Public Long Term Care Policy.

The Oneida County Office for the Aging is located at 235 Elizabeth St . in Utica . It provides programs and services to more than 4,000 Oneida County seniors and collaborates with about 25 partner agencies across the county.

Romano’s appointment is subject to confirmation from the Oneida County Board of Legislators.