## ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ECWA RELEASES 2013 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**

Report shows drinking water is of high quality

Buffalo, New York - The Erie County Water Authority (ECWA) today released its 2013 Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR). The report fulfills the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) requirement for public water suppliers to annually prepare and deliver a consumer confidence report.

"We are once again very pleased with the results of our water quality monitoring report for 2013," said ECWA Chairman Francis G. Warthling. "Our customers deserve to know and understand the quality of their drinking water. The Annual Water Quality Report provides that information and assures our customers that they are receiving safe, high quality drinking water at a very affordable cost."

The EPA sets national standards for drinking water quality. In New York, the State Health Department enforces the EPA's regulations and often imposes stricter standards for some regulated contaminants. According to ECWA's Director of Water Quality Paul Whittam, New York State has among the highest standards for drinking water quality in the country.

"The State Health Department's requirements in many cases are even more stringent than the EPA's," Whittam said. "Our customers are receiving among the safest drinking water in the country right here in Erie County."

The ECWA conducted more than 70,000 quality tests in 2013, to make certain all federal and state drinking water regulations were met. "We have a nationally recognized water quality laboratory and use state-of-theart equipment at our facilities to test our water 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," Whittam said.

Customers should visit <u>www.ecw.org</u> and click on the <u>Current Annual Water Quality Report</u> link to view or download a copy of ECWA's 2013 AWQR.

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