



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, Dec. 15, 2025

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PA's Longest Serving County Controller to Retire After 40 Years of Service

Carlisle – Cumberland County Controller Alfred “Al” Whitcomb will retire at the end of this year, after serving the county for 40 years making him the longest-tenured county controller in Pennsylvania state history.

During his four decades in office, Whitcomb was key in guiding Cumberland County through major economic cycles, regulatory changes, and significant modernization initiatives. Known for his integrity, institutional knowledge, and steady financial stewardship, he played a central role in strengthening the county’s fiscal stability and earning national and statewide recognition for responsible public management.

“It has been one of the great privileges of my life to serve the people of Cumberland County,” said Al Whitcomb. “For 40 years, I have worked alongside dedicated public servants who care deeply about this county. I am proud of the systems we’ve built, the transparency we’ve championed, and the trust we’ve maintained with taxpayers. I always strived to fulfil my role as the fiscal watchdog of the taxpayers.”

Throughout his career, Whitcomb led the modernization of financial reporting systems, improved internal audit processes, and expanded public access to county financial information. His office was one of the first in the Commonwealth to publish the Government Finance Officers Association Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and the Popular Annual Financial Report, for which his office earned the Outstanding Achievement in Financial Reporting for the past 37 and 22 years respectively.

His institutional knowledge, years of experience and collaborative approach made him a valued advisor across and among county governments. Whitcomb served as Treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Controller’s for 28 years and has participated in numerous state legislative boards dealing with county governments.

Whitcomb’s successor will be current County Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Dana Best, who was elected to the position in the past election. “I have full confidence that Dana is the right person to carry this important work forward and will hit the ground running from her first day in office,” Whitcomb said.

Upon retirement, Whitcomb plans to spend more time with family and pursue personal interests after what colleagues describe as a “truly historic” career in public service.

“I want to thank the taxpayers and voters of this county for entrusting me with your support all these years,” said Whitcomb. “It has truly been a humbling honor for me personally”.

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