



Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2016

DIRECTORS

MILTON L. SMITH, *Chairman*
GARY L. HILL, *Vice Chairman/Sec.*
JOHN J. McGETTIGAN, *Treasurer*
EDMUND J. COLANZI
WILLIAM LEA

G. BRUCE WARD, *Executive Director*
GARTH MOYLE, *Deputy Executive Director*
LINDA BAZEMORE, *Deputy Executive Director*

NJ LEAD LEVEL ARTICLE REQUIRES CLARIFICATION

An article published February 1, 2016 in Central Jersey News raises concerns over the issue of lead poisoning. The article titled "Kids in 11 NJ Cities have Higher Lead Levels than Flint Mich." captures local attention since Atlantic City is mentioned as one of the eleven NJ cities.

The article is the thrust of the Housing and Community Development Network of NJ addressing their differences with the state for lack of funding for prevention and abatement of lead paint hazards. The title of the article leaps onto the national query over Flint Michigan's water crisis. However, as the article itself mentions, **"New Jersey's exposure is linked to lead paint in homes, not water supplies."**

Atlantic City's high level of lead exposure is a result of its poverty rate of 34% where exposure to lead based paint will be found in substandard housing. Where images of Flint Michigan water crises gets embedded into a local news story, public concern is likely to result.

Atlantic City residents and businesses can be assured that their water supply remains of the highest quality and absolutely free of any lead contamination. The rare chance of lead intrusion through water would occur in an older home with lead piping. Indeed, the effort of the Central Jersey News article is to make the case for state funding for prevention and inspections across New Jersey where exposure to lead may occur.

Further Information Contact:

G. BRUCE WARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ATLANTIC CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY