The County Executive | The Charter in Practice

After David C. Schoentag’s election as county executive in 1967, Dutchess had a single executive officer for the first time since 1719. Since then, a period of experimentation has occurred as successive county executives have molded the operations of county government in response to real world challenges. After a tenuous period in the charter experience in the 1970s and 1980s, the county executive’s role enjoyed decades of stability through the Pattison and Steinhaus Administrations. The county executive model continues to operate and manage Dutchess County Government with the 2011 election of its seventh executive as the office adapts to keep pace with the ever-changing nature of the modern world.