

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update



State Auditor Julie Blaha

November 1, 2019

1. Deadline: Registration for OSA Annual Training

2. Released: Pension Newsletter

3. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Fire Relief Association Audit Requirements - Part II

1. Deadline: Registration for OSA Annual Training

Registration for the Office of the State Auditor's (OSA) annual Local Government Training Conference closes Tuesday, November 5. The training will be held on Wednesday, November 15th at the Mermaid Event Center in Mounds View. Topics will include legal compliance, fiduciary activities, employee benefits, and governmental accounting and auditing.

For details and a link to the online registration, please go to:

https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=2019OSATraining

2. Released: Pension Newsletter

The October Pension Newsletter has been released. The Newsletter provides information about proposals being considered by the State Auditor's Working Group. The Newsletter also provides a link to the 2020 SAFES User Authorization Form and tips for keeping SAFES login information secure. In addition, the newsletter includes information about how to avoid compliance issues related to municipal funds being deposited into a relief association's general fund.

The complete Newsletter can be accessed at:

https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/PensionDocs/pensionNewsletter 1910.pdf

3. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The State Auditor's Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group will meet on Friday, November 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the first floor board room at the Retirement Systems Building in Saint Paul, at 60 Empire Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55103.

Meetings are open to the public. Agendas and materials will be available on the OSA website at:

https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=reliefworkinggroup

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Fire Relief Association Audit Requirements - Part II

Fire relief associations with assets or liabilities of at least \$500,000 must annually submit to the OSA audited financial statements and a separate financial reporting form, countersigned by the municipal clerk or clerk-treasurer.

To learn more about what is required, please visit the OSA's website at:

https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20090724.048

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, send an e-mail with your contact information to signup@osa.state.mn.us.

The Office of the State Auditor is located at 525 Park Street, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55103. Phone: (651) 296-2551 or (800) 627-3529 (TTY) Fax: (651) 296-4755.

Web: https://www.auditor.state.mn.us