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**OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR** 



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1. Deadline: Forfeiture Reporting

- 2. Deadline: Fire State Aid
- 3. Opportunity: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Report Evidence of Wrongdoing

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## **1. Deadline:** Forfeiture Reporting

September 20th is the deadline for law enforcement agencies to report final disposition of property seized subject to forfeiture for the month of August. To report final disposition of forfeitures, please go to:

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

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## 2. Deadline: Fire State Aid

The first certification deadline for 2015 fire state aid is September 15. For a volunteer fire relief association to be certified as eligible for receipt of fire state aid in the first round of payments, all required 2014 reporting information must have been submitted to the Office of the State Auditor, our review of the information must have been completed, and any issues identified during our review must have been resolved by that date.

If your relief association has submitted its reporting forms but has been notified by our Pension Division team that additional information is needed, please provide the requested information as soon as possible.

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## 3. Opportunity: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

There is currently one open seat on the Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group for a municipal representative. The Working Group meets during the fall and early winter at our office in Saint Paul and typically holds five weekday meetings. Potential candidates for this opening must be city or town officials who have experience with an affiliated volunteer fire relief association.

If you are interested in being considered for this open seat, please contact Rose Hennessy Allen by September 18 at (651) 296-5985 or <u>Rose.Hennessy-Allen@osa.state.mn.us</u>.

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## 4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Report Evidence of Wrongdoing

Local government officials and employees must notify the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) whenever evidence of theft, embezzlement, or the unlawful use of public funds or property is discovered. Effective August 1, 2013, the reporting requirement also applies to officers and employees of local public pension plans, including volunteer firefighter relief associations and teachers' retirement fund associations governed by chapter 354A.

Under <u>Minn. Stat. § 609.456</u>, a detailed description of the alleged incident(s) must be made to the OSA "promptly" and in writing. The description may include information that is classified as not public data. "Prompt" reporting means that the OSA should be contacted when the evidence is first discovered. Information that could reasonably be used to determine the identity of an individual providing the required notice is classified as private. To make a report, please use the following form:

http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/reportconcern\_govtofficial\_form.pdf.

If you have questions about whether a report should be made, please contact Jeff Reed at 651-297-5853 or Jeff.Reed@osa.state.mn.us.

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If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

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: www.auditor.state.mn.us.