

Pennsylvania Department of the



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News for Immediate Release

Aug. 25, 2016

Auditor General DePasquale Releases Audits for Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Associations in 23 Counties

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations in Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Berks, Bucks, Butler, Cambria, Carbon, Chester, Cumberland, Fayette, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Juniata, Luzerne, McKean, Mercer, Northampton, Sullivan, Warren, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

The Department of the Auditor General examines volunteer firefighters' relief associations, which receive state aid from a 2 percent state tax on fire insurance premiums purchased by Pennsylvania residents from out-of-state casualty insurance companies.

In 2015, \$65.94 million in state funds was required to be distributed through funding municipalities to 1,915 VFRAs to provide training, purchase equipment and insurance, and pay for death benefits for volunteer firefighters.

The full audit reports for VFRAs with findings are available online using the links provided below, others are available online at: <u>www.PaAuditor.gov/audit-reports</u>.

Allegheny County

Blawnox-Glenover VFRA – No findings

Hilltop Hose Co. No. 3 VFRA – No findings

Pioneer Hose Co. No. 1 VFRA – No findings

Armstrong County

Apollo Hose Co. No. 3 VFRA – No findings

Rural Valley VFRA – No findings

Washington Township VFRA – No findings

Beaver County

Chippewa Township VFRA – No findings

Berks County

Spring VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: failure to secure ownership interest in jointly purchased vehicles.

Bucks County

Ottsville VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for two findings: untimely deposit of state aid and non-compliance with prior audit recommendation for unauthorized expenditures.

Springtown VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: untimely deposit of state aid.

Butler County

Harrisville VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for two findings: insufficient bond coverage and non-compliance with prior audit recommendation for failure to conduct annual physical equipment inventory.

Cambria County

Conemaugh Independence VFRA – No findings

Carbon County

East Mauch Chunk VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for three findings: inadequate minutes of meetings and non-compliance with prior audit recommendations for undocumented expenditures and failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster.

Parryville VFRA – No findings

Chester County

Kimberton VFRA – No findings

Po Mar Lin VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for two findings: unauthorized expenditure and failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster.

Cumberland County

Vigilant Hose Co. No. 1 VFRA – No findings

Fayette County

Farmington VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: insufficient bond coverage.

South Union VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: failure to disclose related party transactions.

Fulton County

McConnellsburg VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for two findings: inadequate relief association bylaws and non-compliance with prior audit recommendation for unauthorized expenditure.

Greene County

Mount Morris VFRA – No findings

Huntingdon County

Orbisonia-Rockhill VFRA – No findings

Juniata County

Lack-Tuscarora EMS – No findings

Luzerne County

Fearnots VFRA – No findings

Kunkle VFRA – No findings

Jenkins Township VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: unauthorized expenditure.

McKean County

Corydon Township VFRA – No findings

Hilltop VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: unauthorized expenditure.

Mercer County

Jamestown VFRA – No findings

Northampton County

Pen Argyl VFRA – No findings

Sullivan County

Dushore VFRA – No findings

Silver Lake VFRA – No findings

Warren County

Clarendon VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for two findings: unauthorized expenditure and untimely deposit of state aid.

Washington County

Finleyville VFRA – No findings

Westmoreland County

Dryridge VFRA – No findings

East Huntingdon Township VFRA – No findings

Mount Pleasant Township VFRA – No findings

Mount Pleasant Township Fire Department No. 3 VFRA – No findings

Trauger VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster.

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