

COMPLIANCE AUDIT

York Volunteer Firemen's Relief Association of the City of York, Pennsylvania York County For the Period January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2014

December 2015



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018
Facebook: Pennsylvania Auditor General
Twitter: @PAAuditorGen
www.PaAuditor.gov

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. David C. Sheasley, President
York Volunteer Firefighters'
Relief Association
York County

We have conducted a compliance audit of the York Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association pursuant to authority derived from Article VIII, Section 10 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Section 403 of The Fiscal Code, Act of April 9, 1929, (P.L. 343, No. 176), and mandated by the Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association Act, as consolidated by the Act of November 23, 2010 (P.L. 1181, No. 118), at 35 Pa.C.S. § 7411 *et seq.*, for the period January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2014.

The objective of the audit was to determine if the volunteer firefighters' relief association received state aid and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws, and administrative procedures. Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objective identified above.

Volunteer firefighters' relief association officers are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the York Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association's administration of state aid and accumulated relief funds complies with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws, and administrative procedures, including the safeguarding of assets. Volunteer firefighters' relief association officers are responsible for complying with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws, and administrative procedures. It is our responsibility to perform procedures to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to the extent necessary to satisfy the audit objective. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions.

Based on our audit procedures, we concluded that, for the period January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2014:

- The York Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association, in all significant respects, received state aid and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws, and administrative procedures.

The supplementary financial information contained in this report is presented for purposes of additional disclosure and analysis. We performed only limited procedures on the supplementary financial information and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it.

The contents of this report were discussed with the management of the York Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association. We would like to thank the relief association officials for the cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the audit.

November 23, 2015



EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE
Auditor General

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Background	1
Supplementary Financial Information	3
Report Distribution List	4

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 10 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Section 403 of The Fiscal Code, Act of April 9, 1929, (P.L. 343, No. 176), and the Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association Act, as consolidated by the Act of November 23, 2010, (P.L. 1181, No. 118), at 35 Pa.C.S. § 7411 *et seq.*, the Department of the Auditor General's duty is to audit the accounts and records of every volunteer firefighters' relief association to determine that funds received under the Foreign Fire Insurance Tax Distribution Law, Act of December 18, 1984, (P.L. 1005, No. 205), as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.701 *et seq.* (commonly referred to as Act 205), are properly expended.

The York Volunteer Firemen's Relief Association of the City of York, Pennsylvania, herein referred to as the York Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association, is a charitable organization that was formed primarily to afford financial protection to volunteer firefighters and to encourage individuals to participate in volunteer fire service.

Act 118 governs the overall operation of the volunteer firefighters' relief association. The relief association's bylaws define the specific operational procedures by which the volunteer firefighters' relief association conducts business. To fulfill its primary purpose, Act 118 authorizes specific types of expenditures and prescribes appropriate volunteer firefighters' relief association investment options. Within the parameters established by Act 118, it is the responsibility of the volunteer firefighters' relief association to choose investments in a proper and prudent manner.

Volunteer firefighters' relief associations receive public tax monies, and the association officers therefore have a responsibility to the public to conduct the association's financial affairs in a businesslike manner and to maintain sufficient financial records to support the propriety of all association transactions. Volunteer firefighters' relief association officers are also responsible for ensuring that the association operates in accordance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures.

Act 205 sets forth the computation of the Foreign Fire Insurance Tax Distribution paid to each applicable municipality throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The amount of the distribution is based upon the population of each municipality and the market value of real estate within the municipality. Upon receipt of this distribution, the municipality must allocate the funds to the volunteer firefighters' relief association of the fire service organization or fire service organizations, which is or are recognized as providing the service to the municipality.

BACKGROUND – (Continued)

The York Volunteer Firefighters’ Relief Association was allocated state aid from the following municipality:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
York City	York	\$74,977	\$9,309	\$10,499	\$79,423

The volunteer firefighters’ relief association and the affiliated fire service organizations are separate, legal entities. The York Volunteer Firefighters’ Relief Association is affiliated with the following fire service organizations:

- Eagle Fire Company
- Goodwill Fire Company No. 5
- Laurel Fire Company No. 1
- Lincoln Fire Company No. 9
- Rescue Fire Company
- Rex Fire Company
- Royal Fire Company
- Union Fire Company
- Vigilant Fire Company No. 2

YORK VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION
 SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION
 FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2011 TO DECEMBER 31, 2014

Cash Balance:	\$	367,540
Fair Value of Investment Balance:	\$	4,244,349
Expenditures:		
Benefit Services:		
Insurance premiums	\$	86,389
Death benefits		660,965
Total Benefit Services	\$	<u>747,354</u>
Fire Services:		
Equipment purchased	\$	67,091
Training expenses		33,831
Total Fire Services	\$	<u>100,922</u>
Administrative Services:		
Officer compensation	\$	117,606
Other administrative expenses		137,997
Bond Premiums		1,471
Total Administrative Services	\$	<u>257,074</u>
Total Investments Purchased	\$	<u>3,440,558</u>

YORK VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom W. Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

York Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association Governing Body:

Mr. David C. Sheasley	President
Mr. Marlin H. Grove	Vice President
Mr. James Welty	2 nd Vice President
Mr. David L. Bowman	Recording Secretary
Ms. Sharon A. Bleacher	Assistant Recording Secretary
Mr. Albert H. Shaffer, Sr.	Financial Secretary
Mr. Frederick A. Kottmyer, III	Assistant Financial Secretary
Mr. Robert N. Bowman	Treasurer
Mr. Dean Lightner	Assistant Treasurer
Mr. Frederick A. Kottmyer, Jr.	Trustee
Ms. Lisa Welty	Trustee
Mr. Osborne W. Bowman	Trustee

A report was also distributed to the following municipality, which allocated foreign fire insurance tax monies to this relief association:

Ms. Dianna L. Thomson-Mitchell Secretary
York City

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at www.PaAuditor.gov. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@PaAuditor.gov.