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News for Immediate Release

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

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations in Bucks, Butler, Chester, Lancaster, Luzerne, 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 2016, \$65.5 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>.

Bucks County Midway VFRA – No findings

<u>Butler County</u> <u>Petrolia VFRA</u> – No findings

<u>Chester County</u> <u>West Bradford VFRA</u> – No findings

<u>Lancaster County</u> <u>Bart Township VFRA</u> – No findings

Manheim Township VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for six findings: undocumented expenses, failure to secure ownership interest in jointly purchased equipment, inadequate internal controls, failure to maintain a complete and accurate membership roster, inadequate minutes of meetings and non-compliance with prior audit recommendation for failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment for failure to maintain a complete and accurate membership roster.

Luzerne County

Sweet Valley VFRA – No findings

West Pittston VFRA – No findings

<u>Washington County</u> <u>Morris Township VFRA</u> – No findings

Westmoreland County Hecla VFRA – No findings Vandergrift VFRA – No findings

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