



Pennsylvania Department of the

# AUDITOR GENERAL

Facebook: Pennsylvania Auditor General

Twitter: @PaAuditorGen

## News for Immediate Release

Oct. 26, 2017

### Auditor General DePasquale Releases Audits for Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Associations in 12 Counties

**HARRISBURG** – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations in Allegheny, Bradford, Clearfield, Cumberland, Indiana, Lebanon, Montgomery, Northampton, Somerset, Susquehanna, Union and York 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 2017, \$60.6 million in state funds was required to be distributed through funding municipalities to 2,521 VFRA's to provide training, purchase equipment and insurance, and pay for death benefits for volunteer firefighters.

The full audit reports for VFRA's with findings are available online using the links provided below, others are available online at: [www.PaAuditor.gov/audit-reports](http://www.PaAuditor.gov/audit-reports).

#### Allegheny County

[Avalon VFRA](#) – No findings

[West Deer Township Fire Co. No. 1](#) – No findings

#### Bradford County

[Towanda 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.

#### Clearfield County

[Wallaceton Area VFRA](#) – No findings

#### Cumberland County

[New Cumberland VFRA](#)

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for four findings: unauthorized expenditures, failure to maintain a Pennsylvania sales tax exemption number, and noncompliance with prior audit recommendations for failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster and inadequate minutes of meetings.

#### Indiana County

[Clymer VFRA](#) – No findings

#### Lebanon County

[South Lebanon Township VFRA](#) – No findings

#### Montgomery County

[Huntingdon Valley Fire Co. No. 1 VFRA](#) – No findings

**Northampton County**

[Roseto Borough VFRA](#) – No findings

**Somerset County**

[Acosta VFRA](#) – No findings

**Susquehanna County**

[Elk Lake 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: inappropriate pre-signing of blank checks.

**Union County**

[White Deer Township VFRA](#) – No findings

**York County**

[Alert VFRA](#)

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for four findings: failure to receive appropriate state aid allocation, relief association accounts registered under prior federal tax identification number, and noncompliance with prior audit recommendations for failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster and undocumented expenditure.

###