



Pennsylvania Department of the

AUDITOR GENERAL

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News for Immediate Release

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

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations (VFRAs) in Adams, Allegheny, Butler, Clearfield, Lawrence, Luzerne, Montgomery and Northampton counties.

“My oversight of volunteer firefighters' relief associations helps emergency-services volunteers protect our citizens and communities,” DePasquale said. “I want to make sure the funding is used efficiently and effectively to help purchase life-saving equipment, training and insurance for thousands of first-responders.”

The Department of the Auditor General audits VFRAs, 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 2018, 2,518 municipalities received \$55.1 million in state aid for distribution to 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: www.PaAuditor.gov/audit-reports.

Adams County

[Bendersville VFRA](#) – No findings

Allegheny County

[Forward Township VFRA](#) – No findings

Butler County

[Mercer Road VFRA](#) – No findings

[South Butler VFRA](#) – No findings

[West Sunbury VFRA](#) – No findings

Clearfield County

[Coalport VFRA](#) – No findings

Irvona VFRA

Complied with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures as they relate to the receipt of state aid and the expenditure of relief association funds, except for one finding: noncompliance with prior audit recommendation involving undocumented expenditures.

The VFRA did not provide documentation to support \$372 in fire company expenses and \$176 in department store purchases, as identified in a previous audit.

Lawrence County

[Ellwood City VFRA](#) – No findings

Luzerne County

[White Haven VFRA](#) – No findings

Montgomery County

[Black Rock VFRA](#) – No findings

Northampton County

[Diamond VFRA](#) – No findings

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