



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 19 Counties

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations (VFRAs) in Allegheny, Beaver, Bucks, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Fayette, Lackawanna, Lancaster, McKean, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Somerset, Snyder and York counties.

“Volunteer firefighter relief associations are essential in helping fire and rescue crews perform their dedicated, often heroic, duties. We are forever grateful,” DePasquale said.

The Department of the Auditor General audits 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 2018, 2,518 municipalities received \$55.1 million in state aid for distribution to local 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.

Allegheny County

[Liberty Borough VFRA](#) – No findings

[Skyview VFRA](#) – No findings

[Whitaker VFRA](#) – No findings

Beaver County

[Potter Township VFRA](#) – No findings

Bucks County

[Eagle Fire Company VFRA](#) – No findings

[Ivyland VFRA](#) – No findings

[Newton VFRA](#) – No findings

[Riegelsville VFRA](#) – No findings

Cambria County

[Franklin Borough VFRA](#) – No findings

Carbon County

[Nesquehoning VFRA](#) – No findings

[Weatherly VFRA](#) – No findings

Centre County

[Pleasant Gap VFRA](#) – No findings

Chester County

[Ludwig’s Corner VFRA](#) – No findings

Clearfield County

[Osceola Mills VFRA](#) – No findings

Clinton County

[Haneyville VFRA](#) – No findings

Columbia County

[Summerhill VFRA](#) – No findings

Fayette County

[Fairchance VFRA](#) – No findings

Lackawanna County

[Blakely Borough VFRA](#) – No findings

Lancaster County

[Gordonville 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 four findings: undocumented expenditures, failure to maintain bond coverage, inadequate minutes of meetings and noncompliance with prior audit recommendation for failure to obtain a sales tax exemption number.

The VFRA was unable to provide adequate documentation for \$2,580 in fire company expenses.

McKean County

[Hamlin Township 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: undocumented expenditures.

As a result of the audit, the VFRA provided adequate documentation to support \$1,072 in training vendor expenses.

Montgomery County

[George Clay VFRA](#) – No findings

[Jefferson Fire Co. No. 1 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 three findings: unauthorized expenditures, failure to define discretionary benefits and failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster.

The VFRA spent \$10,400 for LED lighting of the firehouse, an expense which is not authorized under state law.

[Souderton VFRA](#) – No findings

Schuylkill County

[Branch Township VFRA](#) – No findings

Somerset County

[Addison VFRA](#) – No findings

Snyder County

[Penns Creek VFRA](#) – No findings

York County

[Porters Community VFRA](#) – No findings

[Wrightsville 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 for failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster.

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