



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 11 Counties

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations (VFRAs) in Allegheny, Bucks, Delaware, Franklin, Lackawanna, Lawrence, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Tioga, Westmoreland and York counties.

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

VFRAs 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 for distribution to VFRAs to provide training, purchase equipment and insurance, and pay for death benefits for volunteer firefighters.

The Department of the Auditor General distributes the state aid and audits VFRAs. 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

[Upper St. Clair VFRA](#) – No findings

Bucks County

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

[Upper Makefield VFRA](#) – No findings

Delaware County

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

Franklin County

[New Franklin 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 two findings: non-compliance with prior audit recommendation for failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster; and unauthorized expenditures involving \$1,500 in death benefits.

Lackawanna County

[Clark Summit Fire Co. No. 1 VFRA](#) – No findings

Lawrence County

[Shenango Township VFRA](#) – No findings

Montgomery County

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

Schuylkill County

[Schuylkill Township VFRA](#) – No findings

Tioga County

[Westfield VFRA](#) – No findings

Westmoreland County

[Fairfield Township VFRA](#) – No findings

[Harrison City VFRA](#) – No findings

[Smithton VFRA](#) – No findings

York County

[Yoe 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: VFRA bank accounts were inappropriately registered under the affiliated fire service organization's name.

As a result of the audit, the accounts are being changed into the relief association's name.

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