



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 9 Counties

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced the release of audit reports for volunteer firefighters' relief associations (VFRAs) in Allegheny, Beaver, Dauphin, Delaware, Montgomery, Somerset, Washington, Wayne and Westmoreland counties.

“Relief associations help our brave volunteer responders to perform their dedicated, often heroic, duties. We are forever grateful,” DePasquale said.

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

[Forest Grove VFRA](#) – No findings

Beaver County

[Fallston VFRA](#) – No findings

Dauphin County

[Dauphin-Middle Paxton VFRA](#) – No findings

Delaware County

[Chester Heights 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: inadequate signatory authority for the disbursement of funds.

Checks contained the signature of one officer instead of two officers' signatures, as required by law.

Montgomery County

[Worcester 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: failure to monitor investment activity.

A savings account, valued at \$7,462, was considered dormant and transferred to the Pennsylvania Department of Treasury. As a result of the audit, the VFRA filed a claim with the Treasury's Bureau of Unclaimed Property to recover the funds.

Somerset County

[Central City Fire Department and VFRA](#) – No findings

Washington County

[Marianna VFRA](#) – No findings

Wayne County

[Hamlin VFRA](#) – No findings

Westmoreland County

[High Park VFRA](#) – No findings

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