



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 Six Counties

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

“Volunteer firefighters' relief associations help to provide essential life-saving equipment, critical training and insurance for thousands of volunteer firefighters and emergency service providers,” 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

[Turtle Creek VFRA](#) – No findings

Bucks County

[Lingohocken VFRA](#) – No findings

Indiana County

[Creekside VFRA](#) – No findings

Lawrence County

[South New Castle Borough VFRA](#) – No findings

Luzerne County

[Malby 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 inadequate minutes of meetings.

Montgomery County

[Narberth 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: undocumented expenditures and inadequate signatory authority for the disbursement of funds.

The VFRA did not provide sufficient documentation to support \$36,435 in insurance vendor expenses. Checks contained the signature of one officer although two signatures are required.

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