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News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DePasquale Announces \$55.1 Million to Help Volunteer Firefighters Protect Communities Statewide

YORK – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today said he has released \$55.1 million to help volunteer firefighters' relief associations provide training and equipment that saves lives and protects communities across the state.

"This money is vital in helping volunteer firefighters who save lives and protect property," DePasquale said. "These funds will benefit communities statewide by helping to purchase life-saving equipment, fund critical training and provide insurance for thousands of volunteer firefighters and emergency service providers."

As part of the 2018 allocation, 2,518 municipalities across the state received \$55.1 million in fire relief association funding for distribution to the volunteer firefighters' relief associations providing fire services to their communities.

The volunteer firefighters' relief association funding comes from a 2 percent state tax on fire insurance premiums purchased by Pennsylvania residents from out-of-state casualty insurance companies.

The Department of the Auditor General audits volunteer firefighters' relief associations.

DePasquale said for the first time ever, all municipalities submitted their requests for VFRA funding on time.

"My office has been working to streamline the process for municipalities and that effort is paying off by making it easier for them submit requests for the funding they need to support volunteer firefighters."

A report detailing the amount of state funding for VFRAs is available online at <u>www.PaAuditor.gov</u>.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: A by-county listing of volunteer firefighter relief association state aid for 2018 is provided below.

\$55.1 Million in State Aid* for Volunteer Firefighters in 2018			
	Volunteer Firefighers'		Volunteer Firefighers'
County	Relief Association	County	Relief Association
Adams County	\$579,113.91	Lackawanna County	\$616,512.42
Allegheny County	\$4,568,281.98	Lancaster County	\$2,723,946.39
Armstrong County	\$301,246.06	Lawrence County	\$311,106.07
Beaver County	\$728,839.36	Lebanon County	\$714,196.34
Bedford County	\$266,838.72	Lehigh County	\$1,396,832.50
Berks County	\$1,715,046.83	Luzerne County	\$1,194,697.42
Blair County	\$404,812.08	Lycoming County	\$460,934.84
Bradford County	\$326,113.52	McKean County	\$137,691.87
Bucks County	\$4,327,185.37	Mercer County	\$438,751.23
Butler County	\$1,009,908.59	Mifflin County	\$211,313.45
Cambria County	\$520,950.92	Monroe County	\$944,656.35
Cameron County	\$22,260.57	Montgomery County	\$5,772,622.70
Carbon County	\$328,770.66	Montour County	\$105,125.36
Centre County	\$847,457.51	Northampton County	\$1,312,674.64
Chester County	\$3,626,059.73	Northumberland County	\$395,513.68
Clarion County	\$169,295.96	Perry County	\$248,735.71
Clearfield County	\$353,933.87	Philadelphia County	\$0.00
Clinton County	\$186,453.56	Pike County	\$388,958.98
Columbia County	\$337,916.95	Potter County	\$94,120.54
Crawford County	\$310,436.77	Schuylkill County	\$659,286.70
Cumberland County	\$1,471,895.94	Snyder County	\$200,455.27
Dauphin County	\$1,299,630.84	Somerset County	\$390,389.00
Delaware County	\$2,785,810.54	Sullivan County	\$57,268.36
Elk County	\$139,793.76	Susquehanna County	\$242,187.82
Erie County	\$857,144.82	Tioga County	\$223,179.47
Fayette County	\$599,131.28	Union County	\$228,773.93
Forest County	\$35,233.76	Venango County	\$176,530.68
Franklin County	\$724,851.91	Warren County	\$138,615.76
Fulton County	\$83,450.86	Washington County	\$954,964.77
Greene County	\$200,534.89	Wayne County	\$385,518.71
Huntingdon County	\$228,171.85	Westmoreland County	\$1,777,262.85
Indiana County	\$391,459.46	Wyoming County	\$165,733.78
Jefferson County	\$194,711.24	York County	\$1,957,950.66
Juniata County	\$125,967.95	Total	\$55,095,220.27

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*State aid for volunteer firefighters' relief associations comes from a 2 percent tax on out-of-state casualty and fire insurance premiums.

Source: www.PaAuditor.gov