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 in Berks, Cambria, Cumberland, Erie, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery, Northumberland, Schuylkill and Westmoreland counties.

The Department of the Auditor General examines 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 2017, 2,521 municipalities received \$60.6 million in fire relief association funding for distribution to local volunteer firefighters' relief associations 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.

Berks County

Oley VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for four findings: unauthorized expenditures, failure to deposit reimbursement, undocumented expenditure, and insufficient documentation of loan to the relief association.

Cambria County

Loretto Community VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: untimely receipt and deposit of state aid.

Cumberland County

West Pennsboro VFRA - No findings

Erie County

Girard Borough VFRA - No findings

Lackawanna County

Spring Brook Township VFRA – No findings

Luzerne County

Mocanaqua VFRA – No findings

Monroe County

East Stroudsburg VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: insufficient bond coverage.

Montgomery County

New Hanover Township VFRA

Received and expended state aid and accumulated relief funds in compliance with applicable state laws, contracts, bylaws and administrative procedures, except for one finding: unauthorized expenditures.

Red Hill VFRA - No findings

Northumberland County

<u>Upper Augusta VFRA</u> – No findings

Schuylkill County

Mahantongo VFRA – No findings

Tremont VFRA – No findings

Westmoreland County

<u>Ligonier VFRA</u> – No findings

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