



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 in Adams, Allegheny, Cambria, Columbia, Fayette, Greene, Huntingdon, Schuylkill, Union, Warren and Wayne 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 funding is used efficiently and effectively to help purchase life-saving equipment, training and insurance for thousands of first-responders.”

The Department of the Auditor General audits 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 2018, 2,518 municipalities received \$55.1 million in state aid 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 VFRA with findings are available online using the links provided below; others are available online at: www.PaAuditor.gov/audit-reports.

Adams County

[Gettysburg Fire Department 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 three findings: failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster, inadequate investment records, and inadequate authority for the investment of funds.

The approval of only one relief association officer was used to make investment transactions although the approval of at least two officers is required.

Allegheny County

[Frazer Township Fire Department No. 2 VFRA](#) – No findings

Cambria County

[Conemaugh Independence VFRA](#) – No findings

Columbia County

[Catawissa VFRA](#) – No findings

Fayette County

[Hiller VFRA](#) – No findings

Greene County

[Jefferson VFRA](#) – No findings

Huntingdon County

[Trough Creek Valley VFRA](#) – No findings

Schuylkill County

[Ashland 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: failure to maintain a complete and accurate equipment roster and inadequate relief association bylaws.

Union County

[Union Township VFRA](#) – No findings

Warren County

[Cherry Grove VFRA](#) – No findings

Wayne County

[Gouldsboro 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: insufficient bond coverage.

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