



State Auditor
Rebecca Otto

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

*The official online news
publication of the Office
of the State Auditor*

November 10, 2011

1. Deadline: Forfeiture Reporting Form
2. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group
3. Meeting: Collaborative Governance Council
4. Update: Parking for OSA Annual Training
5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Payroll-Related Tax Issues

1. Deadline: Forfeiture Reporting Form

November 20th is the deadline for law enforcement agencies to report final disposition of property seized subject to forfeiture for the month of October. DWI forfeitures are now required to be included. To report final disposition of forfeitures, please go to:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/safes/>.

2. Meeting: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The first meeting of the 2011-2012 Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group will be held on Wednesday, November 16 at 11:00 a.m. at our 525 Park St office in Saint Paul. Meetings are open to the public. Working Group meeting materials are available at:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=reliefworkinggroup>.

3. Meeting: Collaborative Governance Council

The next meeting of the Collaborative Governance Council will be held on Wednesday, November 16 at 1:00 p.m. in the League of Minnesota Cities building, 145 University Avenue West, St. Paul. Council meetings are open to the public. For more information on the Council and to access meeting materials, please go to:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20100702.000>.

4. Update: Parking for OSA Annual Training

Parking for the Office of the State Auditor Annual Training on Wednesday, November 16, will be available at three ramps. In addition to the Crowne Plaza and Capital City Plaza Parking Ramps, the Victory Ramp will redeem the voucher which all attendees will receive at registration. Directions to the Crowne Plaza Hotel are in the Conference brochure, which can be viewed at:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=trainingopportunities>.

5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Payroll-Related Tax Issues

Government entities face multiple payroll-related tax issues, such as:

- Is an individual an independent contractor or an employee?
- Are severance payments taxed?
- Do we need to issue W-2 forms for elected officials?
- Is an employee's clothing allowance taxable income?

The Office of Federal, State and Local Governments of the IRS ("FSLG") provides information and guidance to government entities on federal tax issues. If a government entity is audited by the IRS and found to be in noncompliance, fines and penalties are possible, and the government entity or its employees could be subject to back taxes.

More information about FSLG and to access informational materials, please go to:

<http://www.irs.gov/govt/fslg>.

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, [click here](#).

The Office of the State Auditor is located at 525 Park Street, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55103. Phone: (651) 296-2551 or (800) 627-3529 (TTY) Fax: (651) 296-4755.

Web: www.auditor.state.mn.us.