1. Released: 2014 Fire and Police State Aid Amounts

The 2014 fire and police state aid amounts have been released by the Minnesota Department of Revenue and posted to the OSA website at:


2. Revised: Statement of Position on TIF

The Statement of Position entitled "TIF Five-Year Rule and Six-Year Rule" has been revised to include changes enacted by the 2014 Legislature. The Statement can be viewed at:


3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Contract Quotations

Minnesota’s Uniform Municipal Contracting Law uses dollar-amount thresholds to determine whether local government contracts may be entered into on the basis of competitive bids, quotations, or purchase or sale in the open market. Contracts estimated to exceed $100,000 must generally be made using sealed bids, solicited by public notice. In general, contracts with estimated values of $100,000 or less can be made based on quotations. Contracts estimated not to exceed $25,000 may be made on either quotations or on the open market.

A valid quotation must include a price offered by a vendor who can actually sell an item. A vehicle’s “bluebook” price alone is not a quotation for purposes of these provisions. If quotations are used, at least two quotations must be obtained, if possible, and all quotations
should be kept on file for at least one year. For recordkeeping purposes, a written quotation from the vendor is recommended.

For contracts for the purchase of supplies, materials or equipment estimated to exceed $25,000, a municipality must consider the state’s Cooperative Purchasing Venture (CPV) before purchasing through another source. More information on the CPV can be found in our Avoiding Pitfall at:


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