



State Auditor  
Rebecca Otto

## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

# *E-Update*

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

August 28, 2015

1. Released: Minnesota Special Districts Finance Report
2. Released: Pension Newsletter & TIF Newsletter
3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Check the CPV for Purchases over \$25,000

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### **1. Released: Minnesota Special Districts Finance Report**

State Auditor Rebecca Otto has released the Special Districts Finance Report, a comprehensive report on Minnesota special districts' revenues, expenditures and debt for the 2013 fiscal year. Special districts are local government units created or authorized by state law to perform specific duties or to provide specific services in a limited scope. To view the complete Report, which includes an Executive Summary, graphs and tables, please go to:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20150826.000>.

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### **2. Released: Pension Newsletter & TIF Newsletter**

#### **Pension Newsletter**

The August **Pension Newsletter** has been released. The Newsletter contains information about the annual registration relief associations must complete with the Secretary of State's Office to maintain their nonprofit corporation status. The Newsletter also provides a reminder about the upcoming fire state aid deadline and information about the annual Schedule Form completed by defined-benefit lump-sum plans. Information about payroll deductions for relief association membership dues is also included.

The complete Newsletter can be accessed at:

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

#### **TIF Newsletter**

The August **TIF Newsletter** has been released. The Newsletter contains information on 2014 Annual TIF Reporting and on when an authority can stop filing annual TIF reports.

To view the complete Newsletter, go to:

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

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### **3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Check the CPV for Purchases over \$25,000**

Many municipalities purchase supplies, materials, or equipment through the State of Minnesota's Cooperative Purchasing Venture (CPV). Minnesota law requires municipalities to consider the CPV for contracts estimated to exceed \$25,000. For these contracts, a municipality must "consider the availability, price and quantity of supplies, materials, or equipment available through the state's cooperative purchasing venture before purchasing through another source." [Minn. Stat. § 471.345, subd. 15](#).

The Minnesota Department of Administration (MDA) oversees the CPV. More information on the CPV can be found on the MDA website at <http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/cpv2.htm>.

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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](http://www.auditor.state.mn.us).