



## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

# *E-Update*

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

**State Auditor  
Julie Blaha**

**July 19, 2019**

1. Opportunity: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group
  2. Deadline: TIF Annual Reporting Forms Due August 1
  3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Purchases over \$25,000
- 

### **1. Opportunity: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group**

There is currently one open seat on the State Auditor's Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group for a municipal representative. The Working Group will hold between five and ten weekday meetings during the fall and early winter at our office in Saint Paul.

Topics being considered by the Working Group this year include whether the current lengths of service required for full and partial vesting are too long, whether the crediting of interest or additional investment income to deferred members should be discontinued, and a discussion of the large surplus amounts in some relief associations and whether or how they should be addressed.

Potential candidates must be a city or town official who has experience with an affiliated volunteer fire relief association.

Anyone who would like to be considered for this open seat should contact Rose Hennessy Allen by August 2 at (651) 296-5985 or [Rose.Hennessy-Allen@osa.state.mn.us](mailto:Rose.Hennessy-Allen@osa.state.mn.us).

---

### **2. Deadline: TIF Annual Reporting Forms Due August 1**

Authorities must submit 2017 TIF Annual Reporting Forms to the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) using the [State Auditor Form Entry System \(SAFES\)](#) on or before August 1, 2019.

Instructions, sample forms, and videos on how to fill out and submit TIF reporting forms are available under the heading "Resources for Completing Forms" on the [TIF Forms](#) page of the OSA website. If you have any questions, please contact us at [TIF@osa.state.mn.us](mailto:TIF@osa.state.mn.us).

---

### **3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Purchases over \$25,000**

Minnesota law requires municipalities to consider the State of Minnesota's Cooperative Purchasing Venture (CPV) for contracts estimated to exceed \$25,000. To learn more about the CPV and this requirement, please visit:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20091113.000>

---

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, send an e-mail with your contact information to [signup@osa.state.mn.us](mailto:signup@osa.state.mn.us).

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