1. Deadlines: City/County Budget & Lobbying Costs Reporting Forms

2. Deadline: Forfeiture Incident Reporting Form - No Property Seized

3. Meeting: Council on Local Results and Innovation

4. Update: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Check the CPV for Purchases over $25,000

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1. Deadlines: City/County Budget & Lobbying Reporting Forms

City and County Summary Budget Reporting Forms

January 31st is the deadline for cities and counties to submit the Summary Budget Reporting Form. The city and county forms can be accessed at:

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

Local Government Lobbying Costs Reporting Form

The Local Government Lobbying Costs Reporting Form is due January 31st. The form can be found at:

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

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2. Deadline: Forfeiture Incident Reporting Form - No Property Seized

Law enforcement agencies must file a report verifying they had no forfeitures in 2012. To report no forfeitures for the year 2012, please go to:

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

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3. Meeting: Council on Local Results and Innovation

The next meeting of the Council on Local Results and Innovation will be held on Wednesday, January 23 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 meeting materials, go to:


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4. Update: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The 2012-2013 Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group held its final meeting on Tuesday, January 15. The Working Group conducted a final review of its legislative proposals, and adopted them with a few minor modifications.

The Group’s legislative proposals include modifications to how deferred interest is calculated and paid for certain members of defined-benefit plans, clarification of municipal ratification requirements for deferred interest rates, and changes to make payment of a supplemental survivor benefit to qualified recipients mandatory and to eliminate the requirement for authorizing bylaw language. The Working Group’s proposals also include several technical changes that eliminate out-of-date statutory references and provide for better statutory construction.

Working Group meeting materials are available at:


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5. 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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