



State Auditor
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OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

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1. Deadline: OPEB Trust Investment Reporting Form
2. Update: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group
3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Alcohol and Spouse/Family Expenses

1. Deadline: OPEB Trust Investment Reporting Form

The investment reporting form for OPEB trusts is due from trust administrators on October 25. The reporting form is available for completion on the OSA's State Auditor's Form Entry System (SAFES) at:

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

2. Update: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group met on October 20. The Working Group members heard a presentation from staff with the Minnesota Department of Revenue on fire state aid, supplemental state aid, and supplemental benefit reimbursements. The members discussed a draft legislative change that would authorize supplemental benefit payments to emergency medical personnel if the Working Group proposal is passed into law that would, subject to local approval, authorize volunteer emergency medical personnel to be members of the relief association and eligible for benefits. The members also reviewed draft legislation for two technical changes to statute.

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held on Wednesday, November 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at our 525 Park Street office in Saint Paul. Meetings are open to the public. Agendas and meeting materials are available on the OSA website at:

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

3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Alcohol and Spouse/Family Expenses

The OSA has long maintained that the purchase of alcohol at public expense does not serve a public purpose. In addition, the expenditure of public funds for the expenses of a spouse or family member of a public officer or employee does not serve a public purpose.

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