Office of the State Auditor to Hold Training Sessions for Volunteer Firefighter Relief Associations
~ Free sessions to take place in Owatonna, Duluth, Grand Rapids, Marshall, Alexandria, Albany, New Ulm, and St. Paul, March 5th through April 10th ~

Contact: Jeff Falk, Office of the State Auditor, (651) 297-3683, jeff.falk@state.mn.us

ST. PAUL (2/25/2008) – The Office of the State Auditor’s Pension Division is offering free training sessions to volunteer firefighter relief association officers, municipal trustees, and accountants or auditors. The 13 training sessions, in eight different communities, will take place between March 5th and April 10th.

“The successful administration of firefighter pension plans is a goal that we share with relief association trustees across the state,” State Auditor Rebecca Otto said. “I am a firm believer in being more proactive and preventative in government and in getting ahead of problems before they occur. These training sessions serve that purpose.”

The training sessions will include interactive bylaw and investment policy components, and discussions of reporting requirements and reporting forms. Attendees are asked to bring copies of their relief association bylaws and investment policy for use during the training session.

An update on the legislative session will also be included. Relief association trustees are encouraged to attend the training sessions to learn about legislative proposals that could impact their pension plans. Office of the State Auditor pension analysts will be on hand to answer questions.

To register and for more information on the training sessions, please contact Gail Richie at (651) 282-6110 or Gail.Richie@state.mn.us.

Training Locations, Dates and Times

Owatonna
Where: Owatonna Fire Hall
When: March 5th – 6 to 9 p.m.

Duluth
Where: Fire Training Center
When: March 12th – 6 to 9 p.m. & March 13th – 9 a.m. to 12 Noon
Grand Rapids
Where: Grand Rapids Fire Hall
When: March 13th – 6 to 9 p.m. &
       March 14th – 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

Marshall
Where: Marshall Fire Hall
When: March 19th – 6 to 9 p.m. &
       March 20th – 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

Alexandria
Where: Alexandria Fire Hall
When: March 20th – 6 to 9 p.m. &
       March 21st – 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

Albany
Where: Albany City Hall
When: March 26th – 6 to 9 p.m.

New Ulm
Where: New Ulm Fire Hall
When: April 8th – 6 to 9 p.m.

St. Paul
Where: Office of the State Auditor
When: April 4th – 1 to 4 p.m. &
       April 10th – 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

The Office of the State Auditor is a constitutional office that is charged with overseeing more than $20 billion spent annually by local governments in Minnesota. The Office of the State Auditor does this by performing audits of local government financial statements, and by reviewing documents, data, reports, and complaints reported to the Office. The financial information collected from local governments is analyzed and is the basis of statutory reports issued by the Office of the State Auditor.

The Pension Division reviews investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 730 public pension plans. Its objective is to ensure compliance with state statutes governing the administration of plans covering approximately 20,000 members.

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