

1. Correction to last week's changes in report delivery
 2. Pension Division update
 3. Tax increment financing seminar announced
 4. Government Information Division reporting forms update
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1. Correction to last week's changes in report delivery

In last week's E-Update, the State Auditor's Office announced that they would no longer automatically send hard copies of reports and would instead send postcards with directions on how to access the reports online. It should have also been said that **this new policy applies only to Government Information Division (GID) reports.** The Office apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

2. Pension Division update

The 2006 Reporting Year forms will be available for download from the State Auditor's website in February. Email and paper notices will be sent to the primary contact person of each relief association when the forms are available. This year, to save you time, the online reporting forms will be pre-populated with certain relief association information. This means that when a relief association downloads its forms, some financial and member data will already be entered into the forms. The 2007 Schedule, which will be available later this spring, will contain pre-populated membership information for those relief associations that have filed their 2006 form. Relief association trustees are encouraged to upload their 2006 Schedule or file a paper copy if the form has not yet been submitted so that their association can take advantage of the data pre-population. A document entitled "Key Reporting Requirements" is provided in the forms section on the State Auditor's website. It lists each reporting form that is required to be submitted during the upcoming year and the corresponding due date. An updated version of the Selected Relevant Statutes booklet is also available on the website in the Education Materials section. The booklet contains many of the state laws applicable to volunteer fire relief associations, and includes law changes enacted during the 2006 Legislative Session.

3. Tax increment financing seminar announced

The Office of the State Auditor will be hosting a tax increment financing (TIF) seminar on March 15, 2007, at the Park Plaza Hotel in Bloomington, Minnesota. The 2007 TIF seminar will provide an opportunity for attorneys, auditors, local government officials and others involved with TIF to meet some of the important players involved in TIF

policies, positions and resolutions. The registration form is available at www.auditor.state.mn.us

4. Government Information Division reporting forms update

2006 Lobby Costs Reporting Form

The 2006 Lobby Costs Reporting Form for cities, counties, school districts and special districts is not available at this time. Local Governments should be receiving letters regarding the reporting of the lobbying costs within the next two weeks. The Local Government Associations will also be receiving the information on reporting lobbying costs at that time.

2006 Cash City Reporting Form

The 2006 City Reporting Form for cities reporting on a cash basis is not available at this time. Cities should be receiving letters regarding reporting their financial information in the next few weeks.

2006 Cash Town Reporting Form

The 2006 Town Reporting Form for towns reporting on a cash basis is not available at this time. Townships should be receiving letters regarding reporting their financial information in the next few weeks.