

1. Search engine added to the State Auditor's Website
2. Jeff Falk joins the State Auditor's Office as Communications Director
3. Pension Division will provide free trainings for relief association trustees
4. A reminder to TIF authorities

1. Search engine added to the State Auditor's Website

For those of you who use the State Auditor's Website to download forms, find data, or for any other reason, the office has added a search engine to make it easier to find what you are looking for. This new feature allows you to search the entire website or narrow your search to look for reports or forms only. It is the office's hope that this new feature makes the website more user-friendly and efficient. It is one of many improvements to come to our website. You can try out the new search engine by clicking on this link: <http://search.state.mn.us/auditor/>.

2. Jeff Falk joins the State Auditor's Office as Communications Director

Jeff Falk has joined the State Auditor's Office as Communications Director. Jeff previously worked as broadcast media relations manager in the University of Minnesota's Office of University Relations, where he managed publicity efforts for the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, the College of Continuing Education, the Extension Service and the alumni association. In addition, he produced the "University of Minnesota Moment" radio vignette.

A 2002 graduate of Macalester College, he also brings experience in Minnesota state government, having served in two Governors' communications offices.

Jeff will help lead the State Auditor's Office communications and media relations efforts at the Capitol and across the state. He looks forward to finding new and innovative ways to communicate the value and importance of the work we do here every day.

3. OSA Pension Division will provide free trainings for relief association trustees

The Pension Division will be conducting a number of training sessions for relief association trustees during March. The training sessions will be provided at no cost and will cover topics including bylaws, investments, benefit payments, and completion of reporting forms. A complete list of the training locations, dates, and times will be provided in next week's update.

4. A reminder to TIF authorities

A reminder to TIF authorities. Make sure any modified TIF plans approved in calendar year 2006 are forwarded to the TIF Division. The law requires that a TIF plan (or modified TIF plan) be filed with the Office of the State Auditor within 60 days after the (i) the adoption of the plan by the authority, (ii) the approval of the plan by the municipality, or (iii) the request for certification of the district.

Need for filing of modified TIF plans. Starting with the 2006 annual TIF reports, the District Report Operating Statement, Column B – Cumulative Modified TIF Plan Budget (“Column B”) will be pre-populated and locked. Please be sure the TIF Division has the most current modified TIF Plan budget on file so that the pre-population of Column B on the 2006 forms is accurate.