



State Auditor
Rebecca Otto

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

*The official online news
publication of the Office
of the State Auditor*

August 7, 2009

1. Released: Criminal Forfeitures Report
2. Pension Update: Working Group
3. New: Statement of Position
4. Released: County Financial Reporting Form
5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Administrative Traffic Citations

1. Released: Criminal Forfeitures Report

State Auditor Rebecca Otto has released the 2008 Criminal Forfeitures Report, which provides information on the amount of cash and property seized subject to forfeiture by Minnesota law enforcement agencies. To view the complete report, which includes an Executive Summary, tables and graphs, go to:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20090806.000>.

2. Pension Update: Working Group

The Office of the State Auditor is reconvening the Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group this summer. The tentative meeting dates for the Working Group are August 20, September 22, October 6, October 20, November 10, and December 8. All meetings are open to the public and will be held from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at our office in Saint Paul. Meeting agendas and materials will be available on our website.

In the past, trustees throughout Minnesota have suggested topics for the Working Group, and once again we're interested in suggestions of current and pressing relief association issues for the group to consider. If members in your community would like to propose topics, please forward them to Rose Hennessy Allen at (651) 296-5985 or at Rose.Hennessy-Allen@state.mn.us.

3. New: Statement of Position

The new Statement of Position, “Volunteer Fire Relief Association Allocations and Deductions: Defined Contribution Plans”, has been released. It discusses how to allocate income, investment returns, interest, and various deductions to members. To view the complete statement, go to:

http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/Statements/firereliefallocationsanddeductionsdefcontribplans_0908_statement.pdf.

4. Released: County Financial Reporting Form

The County Financial Reporting Form for the year ending December 31, 2008 is now available. To access the form, go to:

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

5. Avoiding Pitfalls: Administrative Traffic Citations

In 2009, the Minnesota Legislature enacted a new law, [Minn. Stat. § 169.999](#), to both authorize the issuance of administrative citations for certain traffic offenses and to prescribe criteria for the citations. In order to use this authority, local governments (including those that already issue administrative fines for traffic offenses) must act to comply with the new law.

To take advantage of the new law, local governments must do the following two things, among others:

1. They must pass a resolution that conforms to the new law to authorize issuance of administrative citations, and
2. They must use the new Uniform Administrative Citation form being created by the Department of Public Safety.

The Department of Public Safety has approved the Uniform Administrative Citation form, and local units of government will be allowed to purchase administrative traffic citation books through the Cooperative Purchasing Venture (aka the state contract) in mid- to late August. If you have questions about the Uniform Administrative Citation form, contact Steve Bluml, Assistant Director of Information Services, Minnesota State Patrol, at (651) 201-7119.

For additional general information about the new law, see the Statement of Position “Administrative Citations for Traffic Violations” at:

http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/Statements/adminpenaltiestrafficoffenses_0907_statement.pdf.

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, [click here](#).

The Office of the State Auditor is located at 525 Park Street, Suite 500, Saint Paul, MN 55103. Phone: 651-296-2551 Fax: 651-296-4755 Web: www.auditor.state.mn.us