



State Auditor  
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# OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

## *E-Update*

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October 14, 2011

1. Upcoming: Volunteer Fire Relief Working Group Meetings
2. Available: OSA Annual Training Materials and Registration
3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Salary Adjustments

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### **1. Upcoming: Volunteer Fire Relief Working Group Meetings**

The Office of the State Auditor will again convene the Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group this fall. The purpose of the Working Group is to identify and work through current and pressing relief association issues.

The Working Group meetings have been scheduled for November 16, December 13, and January 17. All meetings are open to the public and will be held from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the OSA office in Saint Paul. Meeting agendas and materials will be available on our website at:

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

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### **2. Available: OSA Annual Training Materials and Registration**

Information for the Office of the State Auditor Annual Training is now available. The conference will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza Riverfront Hotel in St. Paul.

Details on the conference, including a complete agenda and registration form, can be accessed at:

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

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### **3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Salary Adjustments**

When considering salary adjustments as a way to economize, local officials need to consider statutes that may prescribe how salaries of certain officials need to be set. Statutes vary for different local units of government and for different officials.

For example, changes in most city council members' salaries may not take effect until after the next municipal election. However, their salaries may be reduced before the next municipal election by enacting an ordinance that will be in effect for 12 months, unless the ordinance specifies a different time period. See [Minn. Stat. § 415.11](#).

As with other important decisions that have legal ramifications, local officials considering compensation changes should consult with their legal advisors.

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