



State Auditor
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OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

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1. Training Sessions: TIF Training for County Personnel
2. Pensions: Consultant Insurance Requirement
3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Fraud Prevention - The Perception of Detection

1. Training Sessions: TIF Training for County Personnel

The Office of the State Auditor (OSA) is offering tax increment financing (TIF) training sessions designed for county staff. Sessions will be offered in July at four regional locations around the state. The training will focus on county TIF roles and responsibilities and will introduce a newly-updated OSA County TIF Guide. The sessions are free of charge.

Seating is limited. Registration priority will be given to county TIF personnel in each region. More information and a registration form can be downloaded (pdf, 426k) at:

http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/TIF_training_1407_brochure.pdf

2. Pensions: Consultant Insurance Requirement

Minnesota law places conditions on consultants who provide legal or financial advice to volunteer fire relief associations. If a relief association hires or contracts with a consultant, the association must obtain from the consultant a copy of the consultant's certificate of insurance.

A consultant is defined as any person who is employed under contract to provide legal or financial advice and who is or who represents to the relief association that the person is: an actuary; a certified public accountant; an attorney; an investment advisor or manager, or an investment counselor; an investment advisor or manager selection consultant; a pension benefit design advisor or consultant; or any other financial consultant.

3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Fraud Prevention - The Perception of Detection

Preventing fraud is generally less costly than trying to recover losses. One inexpensive, yet effective, fraud prevention measure is to increase the perception of detection. For example, internal controls are most effective at preventing fraud when they are known by those who may be tempted to steal from a public entity. This means being open that the entity is taking steps to prevent and detect fraud.

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