



**State Auditor
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OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

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June 2, 2017

1. Deadline: Forfeiture Reporting
 2. Update: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group
 3. Released: Pension Newsletter & TIF Newsletter
 4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Joint Powers Agreements – Part I
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1. Deadline: Forfeiture Reporting

June 20th is the deadline for law enforcement agencies to report final disposition of property seized subject to forfeiture for the month of May. To report final disposition of forfeitures, please go to:

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

2. Update: Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group

The Omnibus Retirement Bill, which included provisions from the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 Volunteer Fire Relief Working Groups, was passed in special session as part of a larger bill and vetoed by the governor.

There is the possibility that the legislature will reconvene and consider this bill. We will provide updates if there is any activity regarding the Omnibus Retirement Bill and the Working Group provisions.

3. Released: Pension Newsletter & TIF Newsletter

Pension Newsletter

The May **Pension Newsletter** has been released. The Newsletter provides information about the \$500,000 statutory audit threshold for fire relief associations and a reminder about upcoming reporting forms due to the OSA. The Newsletter also contains instructions on how

to submit audit reports to the OSA and a link that relief association trustees can use to complete their annual registration with the Secretary of State's Office.

Information about the payment of survivor benefits and a link to view a sample Designation of Beneficiary Form are also included. The complete Newsletter can be accessed at:

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

TIF Newsletter

The May **TIF Newsletter** has been released. The Newsletter contains information on 2017 County TIF Training sessions being held in July around the state. The Newsletter also provides information about the 2016 TIF annual reporting form and detail on issues that were the source of reporting errors last year. To view the complete Newsletter, go to:

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

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Joint Powers Agreements – Part I

Governmental units may have agreements with each other to exercise certain powers together. Is your governmental unit a party to any joint powers agreements? If so, do you have copies of your current agreements? Have you reviewed the agreements recently? Do they say what you want them to say? Do they comply with current law?

The primary statute on the joint exercise of governmental powers is [Minn. Stat. § 471.59](#).

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