



State Auditor
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OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

*The official online news
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of the State Auditor*

February 16, 2018

1. Released: Statewide Single Audit
 2. Deadline: County Outstanding Indebtedness Reporting Form
 3. Released: Pension Newsletter
 4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Direct Deposit of Payroll
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1. Released: Statewide Single Audit

The Office of the State Auditor has released the report on Federally Assisted Programs of Subrecipients of the State of Minnesota, also known as the Statewide Single Audit, for the year ended June 30, 2017.

The report contains information on agencies that received federal funds from the State of Minnesota and provides information about subrecipients' compliance with federal award programs. The report can be found at:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20180215.000>.

2. Deadline: County Outstanding Indebtedness Reporting Form

The County Outstanding Indebtedness Reporting Form is due March 1st. The form can be found on the OSA website at:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20030101.047>.

3. Released: Pension Newsletter

The February **Pension Newsletter** has been released. The Newsletter provides information about a legislative proposal that would increase the maximum allowable benefit level for defined-

benefit lump-sum relief associations from the current cap of \$10,000 per year of service to \$15,000. The Newsletter provides a Q&A on this item and the Volunteer Fire Relief Working Group position on the proposal.

The Newsletter also provides an update on the Fire State Aid Work Group that has been discussing whether changes to current law should be sought to allow municipalities that have “combination” fire departments to retain a portion of the fire state aid to pay employer contributions to PERA on behalf of their fulltime firefighters.

The complete Newsletter can be accessed at:

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

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Direct Deposit of Payroll

Eliminating payroll checks is a simple way to eliminate check fraud. Cities, counties, towns, school districts and other political subdivisions or agencies of local government may require employees to use direct deposit for payroll checks (*see* [Minn. Stat. § 471.426](#)). Using direct deposit for payroll eliminates the possibility that payroll checks may be altered, lost or stolen.

Using direct deposit has several other advantages. It minimizes the entity’s cost of distributing checks, replacing lost checks, and buying check stock. Surveys also show that employees value direct deposit. It saves the time and expense involved with cashing or depositing checks and provides employees immediate access to their funds.

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, send an e-mail with your contact information to Jim.Levi@osa.state.mn.us

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