



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

GENE PALMA
DIRECTOR

ROBERT BARGER
FIRE MARSHAL

1110 WEST WASHINGTON, SUITE 100
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
(602) 364-1003
(602) 364-1052 FAX

Date: July 20th, 2012

To: All State Fire Departments and Fire Districts

From: Bob Barger
Arizona State Fire Marshal

RE: *Calendar Year 2012 Fire Fighters Relief and Pension Fund reporting.*

Please review the reporting forms for the 2012 calendar year distribution of the Arizona Fire Insurance Premium Tax. The funds will be distributed in July of 2013. The proceeds of the distribution are used to fund pension programs for volunteer and paid firefighters. The requirements for the programs are detailed in **A.R.S. Title 9, Chapter 8, Articles 3 and 4 for volunteer firefighter pensions** and **Title 38, Chapter 5, Article 4 for Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) participants**.

If your department has not participated in the Volunteer Firefighter Relief and Pension Fund in the past, simply filing reports with the Office of the State Fire Marshal will not qualify the department for fund distribution. Please review the above referenced statutes for information on how to create a pension program **BEFORE** filing any forms. The forms **REQUIRE** action by the Board of Trustees of the fund before they can be filed.

Departments that only participate in PSPRS are required to fill out and send the form, titled "Qualifying Report-Arizona Public Safety Personnel Retirement System" and a copy of the audit covering the pension program.

Departments that have volunteer firefighters must fill out and send in the completed "Report of Volunteer Fire Fighters Relief and Pension Fund" report and a copy of the annual audit covering the pension program.

If your department has volunteers and paid firefighters in PSPRS, you must file **BOTH** reports with the required financial reports.

DEADLINE FOR FILING:

NOTE: SB1004 CHANGED THE FILING DATES:

SB 1004 was passed in 2010 and that changed the filing dates for the participants in the Volunteer Fire Fighter's Relief and Pension Fund. *A.R.S. 9-956, Annual audit; report of secretary: sanction, section "D"* now reads;

“ If the annual pension fund report is not received by January 31st by the state fire marshal, the participating **INCORPORATED CITY OR TOWN OR** fire district is not eligible to receive its share of the fire insurance tax monies under 9-952”.

ALL DEPARTMENTS MUST HAVE THEIR REPORTS INTO THE STATE FIRE MARSHALS OFFICE BY THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DAY ON JANUARY 31ST 2013, NOT POSTMARKED ON JANUARY 31ST.

FAILURE TO FILE A REPORT ON TIME WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF FUND ALLOCATION.

*** It is strongly suggested that all reports be filed with the State Fire Marshal's Office using a method that provides for your records, a written confirmation of receipt of the filing date at the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

All reports should be submitted in hard copy as the OSFM is not currently equipped to have the forms electronically filed.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT A COPY OF YOUR REPORT MUST ALSO BE FILED WITH THE STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC RECORDS DEPARTMENT.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bob Barger
Arizona State Fire Marshal
robert.barger@dfbls.az.gov
(602) 364-1081