



From: NJLM - Municipal Clerks [mailto:njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2009 4:18 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Municipal Clerks from NJLM

LEAGUE ALERT

Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.

January 22, 2009

Re: I Governor Signs Energy Savings Improvement Bill

Re: II League Professional Development Seminar: FRAUD AND FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

Re: III Governor's "Consolidation Commission" Issues Annual Report

Re: I Governor Signs Energy Savings Improvement Bill

Dear Mayor:

Yesterday, Governor Corzine signed into law, A-1185/S-1537 which authorizes public entities at all levels of government to implement energy savings improvement programs (ESIP).

Under such program, a local government entity may contract with an energy services company to implement energy conservation measures through competitive contracting or public bidding. The energy services company must be a commercial entity that is qualified to provide energy savings services. An energy savings improvement program may be financed through a lease purchase agreement not to exceed 15 years or 20 years in certain cases.

The money saved through energy efficiencies would allow all public entities to make improvements to aging infrastructure and incorporate green technology by acquiring new, efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment as well as other energy saving improvements without need for large upfront costs. Without this law, it would be nearly impossible for towns to make these improvements without raising property taxes.

When an energy service company is awarded the contract, it is required to offer the

public entity the option to purchase, for an additional cost, an energy savings guarantee. If the governing body votes to accept this option to purchase, the guarantee shall insure that there will be energy savings resulting from the program sufficient to defray all payments pursuant to the lease purchase agreement. If the savings are not sufficient, the energy company is required to reimburse the public entity for any additional amounts.

Upon adoption of an energy savings improvement program by public entities, the plan shall be submitted to the Board of Public Utilities.

The purpose of the ESIP law is to protect the environment by reducing the release of greenhouse gases; reducing public entities' energy consumption and saving taxpayer dollars.

We urge you to read the many provisions of this law, chapter 4, P.L. 2009. It becomes effective 60 days after date of enactment. For a copy, please contact Shirley Cade at scade@njslom.com or (609) 695-3481 ext. 114.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Re: II League Professional Development Seminar:
FRAUD AND FORENSIC ACCOUNTING
A TRULY ENGAGING AND INTERACTIVE
LEARNING EXPERIENCE

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 12, 2009

The Conference Center at Mercer County Community College

Speaker:

Henry Rinder, CPA, CFE, ABV, DABFA Principal at Smolin Lupin,
Certified Public Accountants, and Consultants

What Issues Will Be Addressed & Why should you attend this session?

- Techniques necessary to detect, investigate, and deter fraud
- Understanding the key difference in fraud detection engagements versus

- external and internal audit engagements
- Proactive vs. reactive fraud-specific auditing
 - Techniques in data extraction/analysis in fraud detection
 - Proficiency in the investigative techniques and evidence
 - CMFO/CCFO, CTC, RMC, CPA, RMA, and CPRP earn valuable continuing education units

Register Now!

1. Visit www.njslom.org
2. Scroll your mouse over **Services**
3. Click on **Calendar of Events**, then **February**
4. Select the **Date** you will be attending
5. **Download** the Registration Form
6. **Complete** and **Fax to (609) 695-0151**

Re: III Governor's "Consolidation Commission" Issues Annual Report

Dear Mayor:

Earlier today, the State's Local Unit Alignment, Reorganization and Consolidation Commission (LUARCC) issued its first Annual Report. The Report is available on the LUARCC website at <http://nj.gov/dca/affiliates/luarcc/>.

This Report will be supplemented by the statutorily required "two year" report, about which the Governor spoke in his State of the State speech. (See our letter at <http://www.njslom.org/ml011309-STATE-OF-STATE.html>.) In that speech, the Governor indicated his desire for "concrete recommendations on cost saving from 'shared services and consolidations' to be submitted by the Consolidation Commission no later than March 31st."

In less than a year since its organization, the Commission, which was created to discover more cost efficient means of delivering vital local services, has made great progress. But it appears that the 'concrete recommendations' requested by the Governor will not include specific calls for consolidations, mergers or service sharings. They will, instead, call for patience to allow the Commission to proceed in a thoughtful and professional manner, respecting the magnitude of its charge.

In point of fact, extensive research conducted by Commission member Bob Casey, Executive Director of the New Jersey Municipal Management Association, points away from consolidations as a means of saving property taxpayers' money. Instead, it appears that the Commission's early decision to study a realignment of specific service delivery responsibilities may prove much more beneficial to the people of our State.

We will keep you posted on LUARCC studies and recommendations. For further information, contact Jon Moran at 609-695-3481, ext. 121.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

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Trenton, NJ 08608