

**Legislative Update
September 28, 2009**

2010 Issue List/Feedback Form:

We now have 14 items on our list and have begun the process of seeking feedback from members, regions, associations. Please take a moment to review, highlight and return.

Fire Safety Account:

Our major push next year will be to capture the \$4.425 million sitting in the Special Revenue Account. The money represents the difference between the estimated revenues (Department of Revenue projection during legislative session) and what was actually collected by the fiscal year end of June 30, 2009.

Volunteer State-Wide Volunteer Pension Plan:

Is up and running. The first election period will be this coming January. The League of Cities (thanks Anne Finn) has put together a tool kit for reliefs and cities interested in exploring this option.

"The Statewide Firefighter Pension Plan Tool Kit is now on the League's website at <http://www.lmc.org/page/1/firefighterretirement.jsp>. The tool kit may be updated periodically as new decisions about the plan are made."

You can also visit the PERA Web Site at <http://www.mnpera.org>. Go to members, click on Statewide Volunteer Pension Plan. PERA will be staffing a booth at the MSFCA conference in Duluth.

Dr. Paul Schwartzman:

Renowned psychologist Dr. Paul Schwartzman will be coming to Minnesota on Tuesday and Wednesday October 13th and 14th to talk about Vision 20/20 which is the next generation of American Burning (Tuesday) and contemporary issues in fire prevention and juvenile fire setting intervention. All chiefs, marshals, and educators should take advantage of this great opportunity (only second time Dr. Schwartzman has been in Minnesota) to hear what is in store for fire prevention in the future. Flyer is attached, the Tuesday session is only \$5!

Certification Board:

Monthly update attached; we have submitted Trench Rescue and Confined Space Rescue for accreditation and took the next step in on-line testing.

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