

SARAH SANDERS DEPUTY TREASURER

October 23, 2024

ERICK RUSSELL

TREASURER

RE: Mandatory Annual Contribution to the Connecticut Firefighters Cancer Relief Account

Dear Connecticut Municipal Chief Elected Officials and Finance Directors,

This letter contains important information and instructions relative to the **Connecticut Firefighters Cancer Relief Account**.

I am writing today regarding the requirement established by the General Assembly in Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-313n that each Connecticut municipality contribute ten dollars (\$10.00) every year per firefighter (both career and volunteer firefighters meeting certain criteria that are outlined in the attached remittance form) within each such municipality's district. The requirement became effective January 1, 2024, and the contributions must be made not later than December 15 of each year.

As you know, the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account (the Account) was established by the Connecticut General Assembly to provide support to eligible firefighters battling certain cancers. The Office of the Treasurer is statutorily charged with managing the Account and processing payments for the two related programs. The Account supports both (1) <u>a wage replacement program</u>, processed through the Firefighters Cancer Relief Subcommittee of the Connecticut State Firefighters Association (Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-313j) and (2) <u>a municipal reimbursement program</u>, which allows municipalities to claim reimbursement for an eligible firefighter's compensation and benefits, including certain wage replacement, survivor benefits, and out-of-pocket medical costs (<u>Public Act No. 23-204</u>, Section 159, or Section 7-313p of the 2024 Supplement to the Connecticut General Statutes). The Office of the Treasurer has no role in evaluating individual claims or applications from firefighters in either program. To view additional information on these programs, please visit <u>portal.ct.gov/ott/firefighters-cancer-relief-fund/overview</u>.

Please remit the funds by ACH or check to the Office of the State Treasurer as indicated on the enclosed Remittance Form along with the completed form, <u>on or before December 15</u>. All questions may be directed to Sharon Anderson, Director of Financial Services, at <u>ott.firefighterfund@ct.gov</u> or <u>Sharon.Anderson@ct.gov</u> or (860) 702-3290.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with fulfilling the important intent of this law to provide funding to assist our State's firefighters with their eligible cancer claims.

Sincerely,

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Erick Russell State Treasurer