



PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

PSATS Daily COVID-19 News

Friday Morning, July 31, 2020

Unemployment Assistance Fraud Warning

The theft of more than \$44 million in federal funds intended for recently unemployed through the federal CARES Act, was traced to 4,000 fraudulent claims through a number of sources including federal and state law enforcement, Minneapolis-based US Bank and the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry.

Many of the fraudulent claims originated from stolen identities and were found through reports from Pennsylvanians that received unemployment compensation they didn't apply for. "Pandemic Unemployment Assistance funds are intended to help Pennsylvanians who lost their jobs because of the coronavirus," said U.S. Attorney Bill McSwain of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. "Thieves who attempt to take these funds are taking advantage of others' misfortune – ripping them off while also ripping off all taxpayers who fund the program."

On Thursday, Jerry Oleksiak, secretary of the state Department of Labor & Industry, released a statement urging Pennsylvanians to remain vigilant of scams and any claims they haven't applied for.

DGS Salt Contract Results Delayed

Due to technical difficulties at PENNDOT, the state Department of General Services (DGS) will not be posting the 2020-2021 salt contract awards by August 1 as has been done in past years. DGS will post the results soon as soon as they are available.

Reminder: Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Applications Due August 12

The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program is accepting applications until August 12. This grant program is administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and historical improvement projects authorized in the Redevelopment Assistance section of the Capital Budget Itemization Act.

Projects must have a regional or multijurisdictional impact and generate substantial increases in or maintain current levels of employment, tax revenues, or other measures of economic activity. To learn more, [click here](#).