

**Susan Gouveia**

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**From:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Sent:** Monday, December 02, 2013 1:48 PM  
**To:** Canning, Sean; Susan Gouveia  
**Subject:** FW: GovConnect Update: December 2, 2013

Lisa Lashway  
Mt. Olive Twp. Clerk  
973-691-0900 Ext. 7291  
FAX 973-691-2080  
PO Box 450  
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

-----Original Message-----

**From:** egg@dca.state.nj.us [mailto:egg@dca.state.nj.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 02, 2013 1:44 PM  
**To:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Subject:** GovConnect Update: December 2, 2013

Dear Municipal Clerk:

Stay "connected" to recent developments in New Jersey state government and login into GovConnect at <http://Portal.NJ.Gov> where you can also check our Continuing Education Course Calendar online at: [www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/certification.html](http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/certification.html).

1. COLA Adjustment for CY2014 Budgets

Local Finance Notice 2013-23 addresses issues related to CY 2014 Municipal and County Budgets and the 1977 and 2010 cap laws. It includes information on the 1977 cap law Cost of Living Adjustment and the use of the COLA ordinance and Group Health Insurance increase thresholds. LFN 2013-23 may be accessed via the following link: <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/13/2013-23.pdf>.

2. Extension of Filing Deadline for 2012 Homestead Benefit Applications

The Division of Taxation has extended the filing deadline for 2012 Homestead Benefit applications to December 31, 2013. Members of the public who need assistance can call the Homestead Benefit Hotline (1-888-238-1233).

### 3. County Constitutional Officer Salary Reimbursement

Local Finance Notice 2013-24 ([www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/13/2013-24.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/13/2013-24.pdf)) provides County Chief Financial Officers with guidance concerning the reimbursement of salaries for County Constitutional Officers, as they were increased when increases were provided to Superior Court Judges pursuant to P.L. 2007 c. 350. This law requires the State to reimburse counties for increases required to meet the minimum salaries set by the statute.

### 4. National Endowment for the Arts: Our Town Program

Now available on the NEA website (<http://arts.gov/national/our-town>) are guidelines and application materials for "Our Town", the agency's primary creative place making grants program. Now in its fourth year, Our Town has provided \$16 million to support 190 projects in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. These projects are diverse in geographic distribution, number and types of partnerships, artistic discipline, and type of project. Pending availability of funding, grants will range from \$25,000 to \$200,000. Complete Our Town application guidelines are available at <http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town>. The application deadline is January 13, 2014 at 11:59 PM ET. Our Town Facts (<http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/our-town-frequently-asked-questions>) provides answers to many questions about the program. For program inquiries, please email [OT@arts.gov](mailto:OT@arts.gov) with specific questions and a design specialist will respond. Sample application narratives for these types of projects can be found at <http://arts.gov/foia/reading-room/sample-application-narratives-our-town>. To view a map of all the Our Town projects along with project descriptions and images, visit <http://arts.gov/national/our-town>.

### 5. Division of Pensions and Benefits: Social Media Accounts

The Division of Pensions and Benefits has recently launched official Facebook ([www.facebook.com/NJDPB](http://www.facebook.com/NJDPB)), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/NJDPB1>) and YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/newjerseydpb>) accounts. These social media accounts have been created for the limited purpose of generally discussing pension plans, health benefit programs, and NJDPB administration and operations. These sites are not intended nor created to be a general public forum, or to discuss individual member or annuitant specific information. We encourage you and your employees to stay connected to the Division through the new social media accounts. For questions, please email [pensions.nj@treas.state.nj.us](mailto:pensions.nj@treas.state.nj.us)

### 6. Registration and Inspection Management System (RIMS)

The Department of Community Affairs has implemented a new Registration and Inspection Management System (RIMS), integrating data for the Division of Fire Safety and the Division of Codes and Standards. As you are aware, the Division of Fire Safety requires the Local Fire Official to submit an annual report of all inspections performed, which needs to be certified by the Local Business Administrator (or other Chief Administrative Officer). This was formerly a paper report which needed to be notarized, approved by the Business Administrator, and submitted to the Division by the Fire Official by January 31st. All of that has been integrated into the new RIMS computer system, requiring an electronic certification by both the Fire Official and the Business Administrator. Consequently, the Division of Fire Safety needs Business Administrators to request access to the system. Please go to the Department's website at [www.nj.gov/dca/](http://www.nj.gov/dca/) and look for the "DCA RIMS Online Services" blue and white box. Follow the links until you get to the Non-Registered Services page and click on the link for

"Request Access to RIMS Online" and fill out the information. Your request will be sent to your local Fire Official for approval. If you have questions concerning this matter please contact the NJ Division of Fire Safety at 609-633-6106.

## CONFERENCES

### 1. Understanding the Affordable Healthcare Act

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities is offering a seminar on the topic "Understanding the Affordable Healthcare Act" on Monday, December 9, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Conference Center at Mercer in West Windsor, NJ. Healthcare Reform, also known as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("the PPACA") is among the broadest sweeping laws ever passed in our nation's history, impacting every aspect of the United States health care delivery system. This seminar will be an interactive session designed to provide administrators, financial professionals, policy makers and elected officials with a clear blue print of what is coming, what needs to be done and how to make it happen. The seminar agenda and registration form are available at [www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/2013-Dec9-Healthcare.html](http://www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/2013-Dec9-Healthcare.html). CEU's have been approved. For questions please contact Suzanne Delany by email [SDelany@njslom.org](mailto:SDelany@njslom.org) or call (609) 695-3481 ext. 111.

### 2. NJAC Summit on the Affordable Care Act

The New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) is pleased to announce its year-end conference and "Summit on the Affordable Care Act" to be held on December 13, 2013 at the Trenton Country Club in Mercer County. Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear State, federal, and healthcare industry experts discuss county governments' unique role under the ACA as both an employer and conveyor of essential human services programs. Please take a moment to review the program agenda at <http://www.njac.org/images/FileLib/Summit%20on%20ACA%202013%20Business%20Registration.pdf>, which contains important details about registration, limited table top exhibit displays, and event host opportunities. As a valued business associate, make sure to take advantage of this outstanding networking event to effectively showcase how your business will help county governments operate more efficiently and save valuable taxpayer dollars. For questions, please contact the NJAC at (609) 394-3467.

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS: Municipal Clerk, Chief Financial Officer, Tax Collector / County Freeholder Board Clerk, Chief Financial Officer / Authority Officials / Fire District Officials / Procurement Officials