



Data-mining battle costs Vermont taxpayers \$1.8M

WCAX - November 17, 2011

“Vermont lost a federal lawsuit...And now we know how much taxpayers will pay for it. New court papers show the state is on the hook for \$1.8 million to cover legal fees by Pharmaceutical Research Manufacturers of America (PhRMA).

State Auditor Tom Salmon says Republicans fought the law saying it was unconstitutional and the Supreme Court said the law lacked coherence and careful crafting...”

[Read full story](#)

Act 80. Sec. 22a. LITIGATION REPORT; AUDITOR

“Beginning January 1, 2008 and annually thereafter, the state auditor shall provide a report to the general assembly with a detailed accounting of all amounts paid by the state with state or federal funds in connection with any litigation challenging the validity of this act or a section of this act...”

To view the 2011 Litigation Report [click here](#).

“As of June 30, 2011 the total direct litigation cost associated with Act No. 80 totaled **\$634,678**. As of now (with PhRMA’s legal fees) we’re looking at close to \$2.4 million and there are still three more plaintiffs’ legal fees to pay.” - Auditor Salmon

The Auditor’s Office is pleased to welcome a new staff auditor, Michele Pheeney. Michele earned her Master’s of Business Administration from St. Edward’s University in Austin, Texas, and started her accounting career at the Texas State Auditor’s Office.



(Above) Staff members participate in a graduate level writing class to improve performance audit writing.

*****Auditor Salmon completes examination and requirements for the Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) License. The CFE credential denotes proven expertise in fraud prevention, detection and deterrence.**

State auditor creates PSA for DUI awareness

Fox 44 News - November 29, 2011

There was a moment Tom Salmon wishes he could have back, when, in November of 2009, Vermont's state auditor was pulled over with a blood alcohol level over the legal limit.

Salmon was arrested and charged with driving under the influence.

“Two years later, Salmon is talking about drinking and driving and trying to get people's attention. [Full story](#)

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