



# Happy Holidays



## PENSION NEWS

### PUBLICATION OF THE FIREMEN'S ANNUITY & BENEFIT FUND OF CHICAGO

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Office Hours - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. — Monday through Friday

<http://www.fabf.org>

#### RETIREMENT BOARD

##### Ex-Officio Members

Charles Stewart III, First Deputy Fire Commissioner  
Stephanie Neely, City Treasurer, Vice-President  
Steven Lux, City Comptroller  
Miguel del Valle, City Clerk of Chicago

##### Elected Members

Anthony R. Martin, Fund Secretary  
Michael Shanahan, President  
Dan Fabrizio, Elected Active Member  
Walter Carlson, Annuitant Member

#### FROM THE SECRETARY

ANTHONY R. MARTIN

#### The State of Illinois and the City of Chicago's Pension Funding Crisis Brings About Legislation Which Mandates Funding for Pensions

Elected officials of both the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago continue to be confronted by the massive problem of adequately funding the pension funds that thousands of current and former employees rely on, and/or will rely on in the future, for their retirement. The Mayor, in October in his budget address, called for pension reform including a two-tiered pension system for Chicago's police officers, firefighters and paramedics. This followed the changes made to the benefit structures of other non-public safety pension funds throughout the state earlier this year. On December 2, 2010, Senate Bill 3538 passed and now awaits the Governor's signature. After decades of unfunded mandates on the retirement systems across the state; benefit increases, early retirement initiatives, and pension contribution holidays, the current general assembly is requiring that the tab be paid.

Senate Bill 3538 requires that an actuarially sound method be used to determine the City's annual funding requirement and also establishes a two-tier benefit structure for Chicago Police, Chicago Fire, Downstate Police, Downstate Fire, and IMRF SLEP (Downstate Sheriffs).

The most significant aspect of the legislation is the requirement that employer contributions are to be calculated based on ARC (Actuarial Required Contribution) starting in 2015, to achieve 90% funding over a 25 year amortization period. The 2009 Annual Actuarial Valuation Report of the Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago estimates that the corresponding property tax multiplier for such an ARC based employer contribution would be approximately 6.2 times the employee contribution. Current statutes require a 2.26 multiplier. Such an increase immediately addresses the existing underfunded status of our pension system and requires the City to finally begin to properly fund the promises that have been made to current and future members. There are no changes to the benefit provisions or contribution levels for current members.

The following items are the benefit changes for **new employees hired after January 1, 2011:**

Retirement Age, Without Penalty:	55, with 10 years of service
Retirement Calculation:	2.5% of final avg. salary for each year of service

Retirement Age, With Penalty:	50, with 10 years of service
Early Retirement Penalty:	0.5% each month age is under 55
Max Retirement Benefit:	75% of final average salary
Final Average Monthly Salary:	Avg. 96 consecutive best months in final 120
Max. Final Salary:	\$106,800, with annual increments
Survivors Annuity:	66 2/3% of annuitant's pension
Annuitants' Annual Increases:	Starts at Age 60, the lesser of 3% or ½ of cpi-u
Survivors' Annual Increases:	The lesser of 3% or ½ of the cpi-u

The estimated price tag for the delay in enacting this necessary legislation approaches an additional \$500 million annually during the years 2015 through 2040. This does not include the funds required to bail out the state's retirement systems and those of the many municipalities that find themselves with similar pension funding dilemmas. While our municipal legislators have claimed that the solution will have a huge impact on property owners, other sources of revenue may be considered. Existing language within the Fireman's Annuity and Benefit Fund's statute, allows the City to fund the system from any tax source. Our legislators have much work to do to save these systems and must do so in a manner that doesn't require future employees to pay more for their benefits than they are worth because of existing unfunded obligations. We all must monitor the impact of any proposed legislation and communicate with our elected legislators.

#### **Recent Chicago Tribune Articles about Funding and Investments**

The Chicago Tribune has written several articles concerning the funded status of the City of Chicago pension funds and has expressed concern about the decision of these funds to invest in private equity. The author made only brief mention of our Fund, but questioned the wisdom of any fund that invests in private equity. Private equity is an investment in non-publicly traded companies. The Fund currently has invested approximately \$19 million (2% of the total Fund) with 8 private equity fund managers. These funds offer increased portfolio diversification of the Fund's asset and a potentially higher return. All Fund investments are chosen through a thorough and open due diligence process as prescribed by statute. Such private equity investments are prudent when undertaken in light of the Fund's overall investment strategy.

Any current discussion concerning funded status and the legislation that has just been passed is in no way reflective of the Fund operations or the results of the Fund's investments. The problems of our funded status stems not from investment performance but rather insufficient contributions. Hopefully these issues have begun to be resolved with some of the recent pension reform legislation.

Lastly, it must be noted that Mercer Investment Consulting is exiting the public fund consulting business. We very much regret this decision as all members of the Mercer team have worked very hard on our participants behalf. They will be missed and we wish them well.

#### **Ende, Menzer, Walsh & Quinn Retirees' Widows' and Children's Assistance Fund**

Through the continued generosity of our active and retired members, our families and our many friends throughout 2010, the EMWQ Widows' and Children's Assistance Fund will be making a distribution of approximately \$515,000 to the neediest participants of the Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund. In December of this year, we are able to provide a gift of \$600 to 764 of our neediest widows and to all 85 of our children beneficiaries. This gift equates to about one half of the annual health care premium cost the widows are currently paying each year.

FYI, there are 451 widows who receive the minimum of \$1,000 per month or \$12,000 per year. The poverty level guideline issued by the Federal Government for a single individual is at \$10,800 per year. When you consider that health care premiums are paid directly from these minimum widows benefits, it can easily be concluded that many of these widows of our deceased brothers are at or near the poverty line.

For all the active and retired members that have signed up for payroll deduction to help our neediest participants, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude. For those who have yet to participate I would like to encourage everyone. By contributing as little as \$5.00 per paycheck to the EMWQ widows' and Children's Assistance Fund through the City of Chicago Charitable Giving Program, we can all help to make a difference. For active members, please call your steward or Chief Steward Mike Butkus. Mike and all of the Local 2 stewards have taken the lead and have done a fantastic job. Retirees can call the pension fund and ask myself and or any member of our staff for assistance in participating. Our work to do as well or better next year is already underway.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank everyone else whose help has allowed us to distribute \$75,000 more than last year: the Blackhawk Alumni Association, the Chicago Blackhawks, the Harris Bank including former City Treasurer and Fund Trustee Judy Rice, Jason Keith and Justine Fedek, Terry Duffy of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Sal Ferrara (Ferrara Pan Candy), the Chicago Bulls, the Chicago White Sox, the Chicago Cubs, the Chicago Bears, Local 2, FOP, The Fire Museum, current and former Board Trustees; Dan Fabrizio, Wally Carlson, Mike Shanahan, Bill Cosgrove, Miguel del Valle, Stephanie Neely, Steve Lux, Charles Stewart III and Derrick Jackson, Police Fund Trustee Mike Lazzaro and the staff at the Police Fund, Nissan Motors USA, Jake Melnik's, The Chicago Park District and the Mayor's Office of Special Events, 26<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Roberto Maldonado, and a host of other Fire and Police volunteers too many to mention. Together, you have all made a difference and we at the Fund will continue to make every contribution to help our neediest never forget that they are a part of this great Fire Department Family.

#### **Disabled Child Annuity Benefits**

Occasionally, a participant asks me about benefits for children with disabilities. Handicapped Child Annuity benefits are provided under Section 6-147 of the Pension Code. The Handicapped provision of this section allows for children over the age of 18 to receive a Child's Annuity if they are so physically or mentally handicapped as to be unable to support themselves. The handicap must have occurred prior to age 18. The benefits are payable upon the firefighter's death and may be paid to the mother as the natural guardian or to a court appointed guardian. Member's who have handicapped children who may qualify for these benefits may update their records with the Fund at any time. Upon request, the Fund will provide a member with a Physician's Statement Form to be completed by the child's treating physician. The Physician's Statement Form should be returned to the Fund's office along with supporting medical records. Upon the firefighter's death, an application for Disabled Child Annuity Benefits made by the mother or guardian would be considered by the Retirement Board. Updated medical records may also be required at that time. If members have questions regarding these benefits, they should contact Ms. Lori Lund at the office of the Fund.

#### **Chicago Public Safety's 2010 Losses**

This year was a very tough year for both the Chicago Fire Department and the Chicago Police Department. FF/PM Christopher Wheatley died August 9, 2010 in the line of duty. This year, the Chicago Police Department has lost Sergeant Alan Haymaker, P/O Michael Bailey, P/O Thomas Wortham IV, P/O Thor Soderberg, P/O David Blake, and P/O Michael Flisk in the line of duty.

P/O Michael Flisk was the son of one of our retired brothers, Michael Flisk who retired in 1999 with over 31 years of service on the Chicago Fire Department. P/O Michael Flisk was also the nephew of Malachy Flisk who retired in 1996 also with over 31 years of service.

This summer in dress blues and through very hot temperatures, the Chicago Police Department stood side by side with the Chicago Fire Department to honor Chris Wheatley and pay their respects to the Wheatley family. I likewise was incredibly impressed by the turnout of our Chicago firefighters and paramedics who stood in a line that extended for blocks on 87<sup>th</sup> street on a frigid day to pay respects to a fallen police officer. All of these public servants have made the ultimate sacrifice for our great city and we must never forget them and those before them that have given so much.

We all will remember 2010 for the loss of our brother, Chris Wheatley and the members of our extended family on the Chicago Police Department. As 2011 approaches lets all continue to be there for each other and work to ensure that everyone gets home safe.

First of all I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our beneficiaries; Retirees, Widows, Disability Recipients and Children, the best and healthiest holidays. On behalf of my fellow Board members, I would like to say thank you to all our people, retired and active that have been donating to the Ende, Menzer, Walsh and Quinn Retirees' Widows' and Children's Assistance Fund for our widows and orphans. We plan to try and help as many people as we can at Christmas time, as we have been doing for a while now. As the retiree representative I try to coordinate with our office staff who by the way, do a great job helping me and other board members get this fund together.

This year, through the continued generosity of our members, families and friends, we are able to provide a \$600 gift to the 764 widows whose monthly benefit is \$1,500 or less and to all 85 children annuitants of the Fund. You can see where your donations go. These monies go to our family, the Chicago firefighters family members. I am also going to graciously request that you remember to say an extra prayer for all the sick and elderly members of our extended firefighter family. Make it a point to pay a visit on someone who may have been there for you at some time.

### **WHERE'S MY RETRO ???**

The Fund, our active members and many of our retired and widowed members are aware that a pending contract between the City of Chicago and the Chicago Fire Fighters Union Local 2 has been finalized and distributed to active members for review and approval. Pending this approval, this contract must then be ratified by the city Council of Chicago before any salary increases are implemented.

The City of Chicago has up to 60 days after ratification to provide any retro-active salary increment to these members who worked at any time after July 1, 2007. As in any previous time periods affected by retro-active salary payments, the Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago will be required to recalculate certain benefits granted during the retro period.

There are approximately 450 new retirements in this time period along with other benefits that will be affected. Many (not all) of these benefits recalculations require both a restatement of the monthly benefit amount going forward, as well as an accumulated retro-active increment due to the restatement since the original grant date.

Fund staff will follow a very systematic and thorough process to insure that all benefit recalculations are performed timely and correctly. Staff will provide beneficiaries impacted by this new contract with additional information in a direct mailing.

The staff appreciates your patience and understanding as we determine the most efficient course of action.

### **REQUIRED DISCLAIMER**

*The information set forth herein is believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness by, and is not to be construed as a representation of the Firemen's Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago, the Retirement Board (the "Board") or any member of the Board. The information and expressions of opinion contained herein are subject to change without notice. All expressions of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as such and not as representations of fact. Financial information contained in this newsletter is as of a certain date, is unaudited and should not be relied on.*

## THE FOLLOWING ANNUITIES AND BENEFITS HAVE BEEN GRANTED

### MAY 2010

#### **Minimum Formula Annuity**

FF CARROLL BARNES, ENGINE 80  
EMT LT JOSEPH G. CZERWIONKA, ENGINE 89  
EMT CAPT JOSE L. FLORES, ENGINE 23  
DFC DERRICK F. JACKSON, HEADQUARTERS  
FF LAWRENCE M. LEMPA, TRUCK 31  
LT MICHAEL D. POOL, 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT RELIEF  
FF CHARLIE RIVERS, TRUCK 61  
FF HARRY T. SEBASTIAN, TRUCK 35  
LT EUGENE J. SPINA, AIR RESCUE  
AC DANIEL J. WOLLSCHIED, AMBULANCE 21

#### **Duty Disability**

FF ROY S. CHERRY, TRUCK 61  
EMT FF DAVID B. WHITE, 512

#### **Occupational Disability**

None

### JUNE 2010

#### **Minimum Formula Annuity**

FF ENRIQUE BEAUCHAMP, ENGINE 76  
COMM JOHN W. BROOKS, HEADQUARTERS  
FF ANTHONY S. CAMILLO, TRUCK 23  
PM CRAIG R. FEW, AMBULANCE 25  
BC JOSEPH V. MAHONEY, OPERATIONS RELIEF  
FF JORGE L. MEDINA, ENGINE 10  
FF KENNETH J. OLSON, TOWER LADDER 63  
ENG CHARLES SINGLETON, ENGINE 13  
PIC CAROL M. SMITH, AMBULANCE 5  
FF MICHAEL W. TISZA, TRUCK 31

#### **Duty Disability**

PM TODD A. CZARNECKI, AMBULANCE 57

#### **Occupational Disability**

FF PATRICK FITZPATRICK, ENGINE 26  
FF MARK S. MATERA, TRUCK 60  
EMT LT STEVE R. SMITH, FPB

### JULY 2010

#### **Minimum Formula Annuity**

BC JOHN R. BARTGEN, HEADQUARTERS  
FF THOMAS P. DAWSON, ENGINE 79  
FF MICHAEL D. DEYONGE, ENGINE 79  
PIC ANTHONY M. GUTH, AMBULANCE 45  
LT BARRY P. McCALLUM, FPB CENTRAL  
FF THOMAS McDONOUGH, ENGINE 69  
DFC LESLIE E. NOY, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
EMT BC EMMETT H. O'DONNELL, SUPPORT SERVICES  
LT HARRY VERGIS, AIR SEA RESCUE

#### **Duty Disability**

EMT FF JOHN A. KENDA, MIDWAY

### JULY 2010 (cont)

#### **Occupational Disability**

EMT CAPT JEFFREY H. PERETZ, ENGINE 83

### AUGUST 2010

#### **Minimum Formula Annuity**

LT EUGENE J. ABBOTT, ENGINE 30  
FF CLARENCE BOYD, ENGINE 38  
ENG EDWARD BUDILL, ENGINE 110  
ENG WILLIAM J. JONES, ENGINE 64  
FF JOHN J. PASKE, ENGINE 32  
EMT CAPT RONALD A. PONTECORE, TRUCK 60  
LT PHILLIP L. ROSS, FPB CENTRAL  
FF RONALD E. STOFFREGEN, ENGINE 94  
FF CLIFTON THIGPEN, FPB

#### **Duty Disability**

EMT BC PATRICK J. KEHOE, HEADQUARTERS

#### **Occupational Disability**

EMT LT MICHAEL KROLICKI, TRUCK 26  
ENG ROBERT RAMOS, ENGINE 15

### SEPTEMBER 2010

#### **Minimum Formula Annuity**

CAPT JERROLD L. ANDERSON, BLDG PROP MGMT  
FF WILLIAM J. BREITFUSS, ENGINE 70  
LT THOMAS J. MURPHY, ENGINE 102  
PIC JAMES K. SULLIVAN, AMBULANCE 47  
EMT ENG RONALD V. WHITE, ENGINE 82

#### **Duty Disability**

None

#### **Occupational Disability**

FF ANTHONY D. WOMACK, TRUCK 61

### OCTOBER 2010

#### **Minimum Formula Annuity**

ENG RICK W. BISKUP, ENGINE 127  
FFPM DANIEL L. BREAUX, ENGINE 79  
ADT JOHN McKILLOP, ACADEMY  
FF ROBERT NOVAK, MIDWAY  
CAPT ROBERT A. THAUER, ENGINE 117  
FF JOHN TORRES, TRUCK 12  
FF VINCENT URSO, ENGINE 94

#### **Duty Disability**

BC ROBERT J. LUCAS, 4<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION  
EMT FF CHRISTOPHER ULRICH, AIR & SEA RESCUE

#### **Occupational Disability**

FF EDUARDO A. AVILES, ENGINE 89  
FF THEODORE A. LUGA, ENGINE 79

**THE FOLLOWING ANNUITIES AND BENEFITS HAVE BEEN GRANTED**

**NOVEMBER 2010**

**Minimum Formula Annuity**

EMT LT DARRYL L. BOWEN, ARIEL TOWER 1  
 PFC DOREEN CHAMBERS, HEADQUARTERS  
 LT RICHARD W. DIVER, FPB-CENTRAL  
 DC PATRICK MALONE, 2<sup>nd</sup> DISTRICT  
 EMT CAPT JOHN T. McPOLIN, ENGINE 84  
 PM CHERYL L. ROTZA, AMBULANCE 31  
 AC ROBERT E. SCOTT, AMBULANCE 16  
 FF WAYNE E. SHADDEN, TRUCK 60  
 FF TERRENCE W. SMITH, ENGINE 116

**Minimum Formula Annuity (cont)**

BC ANTHONY THOMAS, 24<sup>th</sup> BATTALION  
 FF JOHN A. VOLZ, ENGINE 127  
 EMT BC DAVID L. WALTON, BATTALION 21

**Duty Disability**

ENG MICHAEL BRANNIGAN, ENGINE 88  
 FF JOHN N. HATZIS, TRUCK 9

**Occupational Disability**

EMT ENG TERRY J. KNIGHT, 3<sup>rd</sup> DISTRICT RELIEF

**DECEASED PARTICIPANTS FROM MAY 1, 2010 THROUGH DECEMBER 15, 2010**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DATE OF DEATH</u></b>	
MICHAEL GORDON	11/17/2009	FIRE MARSHALL**
*MARIE C. KEARNEY	02/22/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES L. KEARNY
*ANN MARIE FORTE	03/03/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN C. FORTE
*JAYNE SCHMIDT	03/21/2010	WIDOW OF LAWRENCE SCHMIDT
*JOSEPHINE DZIEDZIC	03/28/2010	WIDOW OF CHESTER J. DZIEDZIC
*NORMA J. EIFF	04/02/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES J. EIFF
*NORMAN C. OLSEN	04/04/2010	LIEUTENANT
*SARAH REICH	04/14/2010	WIDOW OF FREDERICK S. REICH
*SHIRLEY N. FORKIN	04/15/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN F. FORKIN
*ELMER P. SCHMITZ	04/19/2010	FIREFIGHTER
*AGNES O. SMITH	04/20/2010	WIDOW OF WILLIAM J. SMITH
*MARY A. WICZUS	04/22/2010	WIDOW OF STANLEY S. WICZUS
*BERNADINE FAHEY	04/24/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES W. FAHEY
*THOMAS J. BOMBENGER	04/28/2010	LIEUTENANT
*ELIZABETH PLESSNER	04/29/2010	WIDOW OF OTTO J. PLESSNER
LUCILLE E MITCHELL	05/05/2010	WIDOW OF WILLIAM J. MITCHELL
MARTIN D. CIBICH	05/11/2010	FIREFIGHTER
DAMIAN E. BODNAR JR.	05/12/2010	FIREFIGHTER
CORAL R. PETERSON	05/15/2010	WIDOW OF PATRICK PETERSON
SHIRLEY FLAVIN	05/17/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN G. FLAVIN
RITA B. MEANS	05/18/2010	WIDOW OF BERTHYL W. MEANS
RONALD A. RICHTER	05/18/2010	FIREFIGHTER
MARGERY L. SANDBERG	05/18/2010	WIDOW OF WILLIAM C. SANDBERG
ELIZABETH VONDRAK	05/22/2010	WIDOW OF EDWARD F. VONDRAK
EDWARD L. WATERS	05/23/2010	FIRE ENGINEER
ARLENE J. VANDERHEI	05/25/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES E. VANDERHEI
ROSEMARY HATHAWAY	05/26/2010	WIDOW OF JOSEPH F. HATHAWAY
ALAN JURASZ	05/30/2010	EMT BATTALION CHIEF
FRANK O'CONNOR	06/03/2010	CAPTAIN
JAMES F. NOLAN	06/04/2010	LIEUTENANT
LUCILLE J. SLOAN	06/04/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES C. SLOAN
AUGUST F. APARO	06/08/2010	FIREFIGHTER

**DECEASED PARTICIPANTS FROM MAY 1, 2010 THROUGH DECEMBER 15, 2010****(cont.)**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	
DOROTHY M. KELLY	06/08/2010	WIDOW OF LEO F. KELLY
ANNA M. PETRUSEK	06/15/2010	WIDOW OF JOSEPH G. PETRUSEK
JOHN T. WEIGAND	06/16/2010	FIREFIGHTER
JOAN D. RYCHEL	06/18/2010	WIDOW OF ROBERT F. RYCHEL
IRENE SEMRAU	06/19/2010	WIDOW OF FRANK V. SEMRAU
JOSEPH R. HORKAVY	06/20/2010	LIEUTENANT
WILLIAM J. BEHRENS	06/21/2010	PARAMEDIC
ELDEAN R. RUEDEL	06/21/2010	WIDOW OF KENNETH E. RUEDEL
WILMA A. GOSLIN	06/22/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN G. GOSLIN
ERMA R. VALCHANT	06/23/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES J. VALCHANT
PAUL CHRISTIANSEN	06/29/2010	FIREFIGHTER
HILARY D. MARSHALL	06/30/2010	CAPTAIN
ALICE ANN BURKE	07/02/2010	WIDOW OF ROBERT W. BURKE
VINCENT J. BISKUP	07/03/2010	FIREFIGHTER
MARGUERITTA H. ARMSTEAD	07/04/2010	WIDOW OF CLIFFORD ARMSTEAD
ROSEMARIE PURL	07/05/2010	WIDOW OF WILLIAM A. PURL
MARCELLA L. MULHERN	07/11/2010	WIDOW OF RICHARD C. MULHERN
PHILIP T. HODUR	07/12/2010	FIRE ENGINEER
NINNA M. SUTHERLAND	07/14/2010	WIDOW OF ROBERT SUTHERLAND
ANNE M. HERMLE	07/17/2010	WIDOW OF DONALD F. HERMLE
MARTHA H. ROCHE	07/21/2010	WIDOW OF MAURICE J. ROCHE
BERNARD J. SADOWSKI	07/21/2010	BATTALION CHIEF
ERIKA SMITH	07/22/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES M. SMITH
RICHARD P. HOLMES	07/23/2010	LIEUTENANT
EDWARD A. KRISTOVIC	07/25/2010	FIREFIGHTER
AGNES KLAUS	07/26/2010	WIDOW OF GERALD KLAUS
JOHN M. GEARY	07/27/2010	LIEUTENANT
DOLORES MASCO	07/27/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN J. MASCO
ROBERT J. NEISES	07/28/2010	CAPTAIN
IRIS I. NUTTER	07/31/2010	WIDOW OF HARRY J. NUTTER
JOSEPH J. FOBEL JR.	08/05/2010	FIREFIGHTER
JEAN M. LACHIEWICZ	08/07/2010	WIDOW OF EDWARD LACHIEWICZ
REGINA THERESE HAUSER	08/13/2010	WIDOW OF ROY N. HAUSER
KENNETH J. OLSON	08/15/2010	FIREFIGHTER
WILLIAM J. SMITH	08/15/2010	FIREFIGHTER
LORRAINE HEYER	08/19/2010	WIDOW OF CHARLES L. HEYER
MARGARET McSWEENEY	08/19/2010	WIDOW OF EDWARD McSWEENEY
LEROY KELLY	08/22/2010	CAPTAIN
ARTHUR L. BURGER	08/24/2010	FIREFIGHTER
HAROLD H. STOK	08/24/2010	LIEUTENANT
DANIEL McDERMOTT	08/27/2010	CAPTAIN
EDWARD T. RICKERT	08/27/2010	CAPTAIN
DOLORES C. KARCZEWSKI	08/29/2010	WIDOW OF C.W. KARCZEWSKI SR.
JAY W. OLIVER	08/29/2010	CAPTAIN
DOMITELLA M. COLBURN	08/30/2010	WIDOW OF ROBERT E. COLBURN
HELEN M. MIEHLE	08/30/2010	WIDOW OF LOUIS A. MIEHLE
LOUIS G. BAJICH	09/02/2010	FIREFIGHTER
HOWARD L. BEAUREGARD	09/07/2010	LIEUTENANT
EDWARD R. WELTER	09/08/2010	BATTALION CHIEF

**DECEASED PARTICIPANTS FROM MAY 1, 2010 THROUGH DECEMBER 15, 2010 (cont.)**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	
BLANCHE V. DUNWORTH	09/09/2010	WIDOW OF WILLIAM E. DUNWORTH
VINCENT C. PENIO	09/15/2010	CAPTAIN
SAMUEL G. KOOISTRA	09/18/2010	DISTRICT CHIEF
MAXINE MAYBERRY	09/19/2010	WIDOW OF DAVID MAYBERRY
ELAINE C. HOOKER	09/20/2010	WIDOW OF MICHAEL HOOKER
DANIEL E. BUCKLEY	09/22/2010	LIEUTENANT
PAUL R. BUTE	09/22/2010	BATTALION CHIEF
JAMES E. FURLONG	09/22/2010	FIREFIGHTER
MARY ROSE FELLER	09/23/2010	WIDOW OF CHARLES R. FELLER
HENRY D. WEICHBRODT	09/25/2010	FIRE ENGINEER
THOMAS P. BROWN JR.	09/26/2010	FIREFIGHTER
JAMES R. CONMEY	09/26/2010	FIREFIGHTER
ELIZABETH J. THOMPSON	09/27/2010	WIDOW OF ROBERT L. THOMPSON
LOUISE C. DONOVAN	09/28/2010	WIDOW OF GEORGE L. DONOVAN
PAUL A KOKALJ	09/28/2010	FIREFIGHTER
STEPHEN T. O'NEIL	09/30/2010	LIEUTENANT
SEYMOUR W. ROBINSON	10/01/2010	FIRE ENGINEER
WILLIE NORTHERN	10/04/2010	FIREFIGHTER
SARAH FORDE	10/06/2010	WIDOW OF JAMES FORDE
BENJAMIN TITUS	10/06/2010	PARAMEDIC
JOHN R. RUST	10/08/2010	FIREFIGHTER
EUGENE J. WARZYNSKI	10/08/2010	FIRE ENGINEER
MARION M. WHITEHEAD	10/10/2010	WIDOW OF NICHOLAS ZELESKO
LORETTA L KEMMER	10/12/2010	WIDOW OF KENNETH F. KEMMER
EDWARD M. CORRIGAN	10/19/2010	BATTALION CHIEF
BETTY J. KING	10/19/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN L. KING
GEORGIA WALSH	10/23/2010	WIDOW OF RAYMOND F. WALSH
THOMAS J. KING	10/25/2010	FIREFIGHTER
GRACE J. STARK	10/25/2010	WIDOW OF WILLIAM A. STARK
ESTELLE WEINBERG	10/25/2010	WIDOW OF HENRY WEINBERG
CATHERINE M. APARO	10/26/2010	WIDOW OF AUGUST F. APARO
MARY ANN HERRMANN	10/29/2010	WIDOW OF ERNEST H. HERRMANN
TERESA L. BENZIGER	10/30/2010	WIDOW OF JOHN BENZIGER
JOHN A. BUTTERLY	11/05/2010	FIREFIGHTER
THOMAS PARKER	11/18/2010	FIREFIGHTER
WILL GRAY	11/28/2010	LIEUTENANT
ANDREW NESWICK	12/01/2010	FIREFIGHTER
CERIC R. COTTON	12/02/2010	FIREFIGHTER
DONALD J. STENSLAND	12/12/2010	FIRST DEPUTY FIRE COMMISSIONER

\* Denotes information received after publication of the last newsletter

\*\* Rank was listed incorrectly in previous newsletter

***Our Deepest Sympathy To the Families and  
Friends Who Have Lost Loved Ones***





For many parents of disabled children, it is one more nagging concern amid the doctors, medicines, special care and other issues of daily living. How can they ensure that their child maintains his or her quality of life long after they are gone – without jeopardizing their child’s eligibility for government benefits?

The answer for many such families may be a Special Needs Trust.

Recognizing the needs of families with disabled children, Illinois and other states have allowed the creation of special trusts designed specifically to provide a better quality of life for disabled persons under the age of 65 – without jeopardizing their Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income.

A Special Needs Trust can be used to provide better housing, private caregivers and advanced medical treatments for the disabled individual. It can also be used for vacations, computers, DVDs, haircuts and tickets to sporting events.

This is important because in order to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a disabled individual currently cannot have more than \$2,000 in assets. Yet that nominal sum is hardly enough to cover a lifetime of such items. A Special Needs Trust essentially allows a parent or guardian to supplement public benefits

In Illinois the Trust and Trustees Act establishes the right to establish a “special needs” trust. It defines the trust as being a “discretionary trust for the benefit of an individual who has a disability that substantially impairs the individual’s ability to provide for his or her own care or custody and constitutes a substantial handicap...” In order to meet the requirement that the trust be “discretionary” the trustee must have the discretionary power to determine distributions to be made under the trust. The beneficiary of the trust cannot have any direct control or access to funds in the trust. 760 ILCS 5/15.1.

Here is how it works. The parents of a special needs child might decide to create a special needs trust funded by a small amount of cash from their savings account, a few savings bonds accumulated over the years as gifts from grandparents, and a life insurance policy. Let’s say the total cash and savings bonds add up to \$3,500 and the life insurance policy is worth \$250,000.

The parents would set up the special needs trust, and deposit the cash and savings bond into the trust. They would name the trust as the beneficiary of the life insurance policy. They would appoint a trustee (it can be a parent, grandparent or family friend), and ideally spell out in writing their wishes for how they wish the trustee to administer the trust.

Once the trust is established, the administrator would then be free to use any monies in the trust to pay for various items and things the disabled child needs to maintain his quality of life, such as comic books, fashion magazines, a new laptop computer, a night out at the movies, tickets to the CSO or a Blackhawks game, clothes, personal items. In most cases, no cash distributions may be made outright to the special needs child, but if the individual is financially responsible the trust can take out a credit card for the individual to use. The trust is specifically created to provide for these types of items.

Meanwhile, the child does not lose his eligibility for Medicaid or SSI. He still gets any monthly stipend to which he would be entitled. He does not need to be legally disinherited, as in the old days when parents often needed to do that in order to preserve the child’s eligibility for government benefits.

Special Needs Trusts come in many different forms. They can be funded by third parties, or with the assets of the disabled individual. However, trusts funded with the assets of the disabled individual may require reimbursement to the state for some services upon the death of the beneficiary. To avoid any such “payback” provisions to the state, a family can set up a Special Needs Trust funded by a third party - a parent or grandparent is OK in most cases.

Any family considering a Special Needs Trust should consult an attorney. The various forms can be complicated, requiring a specialized knowledge of public benefit laws and trust laws. The cost of an attorney is likely to be small compared to the loss of public benefits that might occur in the event of a mistake that arises from a poorly-drafted trust.

The following donations have been made to the Ende, Menzer, Walsh & Quinn Retirees' Widows' and Children's Assistance Fund:

**April 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

Michael E. Murdock  
Steve Wragg

Marc Taxman  
Chicago Fellowship of Christian Firefighters

**May 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

CFD 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Joe Stefansko  
Irene Babb  
Anthony Schulz

Joseph Wieser Jr.  
4<sup>th</sup> District Picnic Committee  
Stephen Appelhans

**June 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

Brian & Elyse Gilbert  
Louis Nisivaco  
Frances E. Koznecki  
Margaret M. Schmit  
Edward Haberkorn  
Engine 23's House

Robert Keehn  
The Connolly Group  
Sean P. Murray  
"Ole Tymers" Chicago Firefighters & Paramedics  
Kenilworth Cub Scouts Pack 13  
William C. Adams

**July 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

Peter & Sheila Santori  
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Susan M. Bertoletti  
Sheila Bertoletti  
Erin E. Delaney  
Lawrence & Noreen J. Czaszwicz

Dennis & Dolores Delaney  
Patrick & Donna Delaney  
Joseph Bertoletti  
Anthony Ferenzi  
Marie J. Royals  
Battle of the Badges  
The Connolly Group  
Thomas & Marian Leonard  
Louis & Deborah Bertoletti

**August 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

Patrick & Beverly Mullins  
Patrick Deenihan

Anthony Schulz  
Aflac Worldwide Headquarters

**September 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

Michael & Anne Barry  
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Donna Thornton  
John J. Nance  
Alan J. Cohen  
Thomas & Karin Cotter  
Parker Hannifin Corporation  
Robert Sampey  
Jean E. James

**September 2010 Gift Fund Donations (cont.)**

Jackie Schwegler  
The Botsford Family  
William & Corinne Malpede

Pat & Tom Goudie  
Robert & Patricia Fitzgerald  
Deborah Arrington Dunn

**October 2010 Gift Fund Donations**

Edward F. Freemon  
Bernice Turner  
Nita Moore  
John T. Ormond Memorial Fund  
Chicago Fellowship of Christian Firefighters  
Engine 23's House  
John & Sandra Hughes  
Stephen & Janice Crawford  
Sherlene Baird  
Sandra A. Glunz  
Mike Centrachio  
Randy Baustert  
Carol L. Henry  
Philip & Marian Hannigan  
Edward & Corinne Madura  
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Matthew Graber  
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Roberta Gerard  
Ken Dorian  
Jerry McCormack  
Edward & Judith Sokolowski  
Nicholas & Phyllis Koclanis  
John & Roberta Hannigan  
Christine Karczewski  
Robert & Mary Ann Madura  
Joan D. Krueger  
Barbara Mesi  
John Rose

**Annuitant, Widow & Disability Monthly Contributions**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
William C. Alletto  
Raymond Antonucci  
John Bahwell  
Joseph Baldacci  
John R. Bangs  
Richard Bastian  
Thomas G. Barder  
Peter Barrientos Jr.  
Mariano Barron Sr.  
Thomas Barry  
Lawrence M. Berg  
Primo V. Biasi  
Gerald J. Bingham  
John L. Biniak  
Joe & Leemon Boatner  
Lewis J. Bottando  
Daniel Bracken  
Joseph Branigan  
John J. Brennan Sr.  
Raymond Bronke  
Robert J. Brown Jr.  
Thomas Brown Jr.  
Daniel Buckley  
David R. Cachares  
Michael J. Cahill

William Calkins  
Walter Carlson  
Helen Carroll  
Francis J. Chambers  
Chris M. Christian El  
John Clancy  
Michael V. Clatch Jr.  
Eileen Cogliane  
Gary Conaway Sr.  
Michael Concannon  
Bryan Connolly  
Martin L. Connolly  
James & Darlene Corbett  
Leo J. Cox  
Francis Craven  
Catherine Cronin  
Eugene M. Cronin  
Thomas Cunnane  
Gerald M. Cunningham  
Peter Cunningham  
Sheila Cunningham  
Joseph T. Curran  
Ronald J. Dawczak  
Michael Deckelmann  
Robert Dehler  
Sidney Dembowski  
Lyn Deneen

Robert Devens  
Charles E. Dineen  
Richard W. Diver  
Frank L. Doll  
Richard E. Donati  
Michael Donoghue  
Catherine Doody  
Francis T. Dorgan  
Carla Douros  
Edward Drenka  
Norma Eiff  
Clarence Ellison  
Raymond M. Ellitch  
Paul Enhelder  
Nancy B. Fallaw  
Lauren Feingold-Shanahan  
Francis J. Fineron  
James E. Fitzgibbon  
Thomas R. Flamm  
Gilbert Fleischhacker  
Malachy Flisk  
Joseph M. Furlong  
Louis T. Galante  
John Gallapo Jr.  
David Garcia  
Diane Gatz  
Martin G. Gaughan

Annuitant, Widow & Disability Monthly Contributions (cont.)

George Gemein	James S. LaGreca	Andrew O'Donnell
Norbert Gierut	Peter LaManna	Daniel O'Farrell
Brian Gilhooly	Edward F. Letourneau	Patrick J. O'Malley
Nancy Gill	Elizabeth M. Liesz	Philip J. O'Neill
Edward Glugla	Thomas J. Linane	Lawrence Oboikovitz
Michael Goewey	James E. Lind	William Olson
John A. Gollogly	Timothy J. Loftus Jr.	Dorothy Ormond
Wilma Goslin	Thomas Looney	Robert Parise
Joseph Graber	James J. Loughney	Edwin & Joan Paulsen
Kevin Grand	Arthur Lucchetti	Richard V. Paulus
William Graves	Thomas L. Luczak	Ronald E. Payne
Joseph Gruszka	Judith Lux	Patricia Pemberton
William Guilfoyle	August P. Malatia	Edward Petrasek
Marvin Hagele Jr.	George Marek	George Philbin
John Halloran	Thomas Markham	Chester Piech
Laraine Hansen	Robert & Kathleen Martin	Marian Pospisil
Thomas C. Harts	Lawrence Matkaitis	Maureen E. Prendergast
Terrence M. Harty	Richard N. Matkovich	Stanley J. Prysok
June A. Haus	Lorraine McCarthy	Geraldine Punjak
Timothy J. Hayes	Jerry McCormack	George C. Radka
William Hayes	James McCormick	Rudolph H. Rinas Jr.
John P. Healy	James T. McDermott	Lee Rodak
Michael E. Hein	Bernard F. McDevitt	Anthony Romano
Raymond Hoff	Michael J. McDevitt	Arthur Rosenquist
John M. Hoffman	Patrick McFarland	Mary T. Russell
Norman Holland	Robert M. McGee	Margaret A. Ryan
Raymond Holland	Gerald P. McKee	Donald Salzman
Richard Hopkins	John H. McKee	John F. Schaefer
Thomas J. Hosty	Helen McManus	Patricia A. Schaudenecker
Tom L. Hunter	William McNamara Jr.	George Schlomas
Margaret Irwin	John T. McPolin	Michael Schoenecker
Jacquenette Jackson	Michael J. Michon	Susan Schultz
Thomas J. Jacques	Robert J. Mierendorf	Herman Seef
Anthony Jaslowski	Thomas E. Miller	Daniel Sheehan
Jack Jaslowski	James Mindak	William Sheridan
William J. Jones	Thomas Mintle	Wayne Sieck
James T. Joyce	Andrew Mogensen	Vanness Simmons
Michael Kammerer	Rose Mohr	James J. Slattery
Rita S. Kehoe	Patrick Moran	Thomas F. Smith
John J. Kelly	Thomas Moran	Jack & Lee Smithers
Vernon Kelso	John J. Moriarty	Richard O. Sterling
Michael C. King	Robert J. Mrozek	Roger Stillman
Thomas F. King	Timothy E. Mulcahy	Richard Sturm
William T. King	Richard W. Munson	Joseph M. Sudar
George M. Korda	John P. Murphy	Cornelius J. Sullivan
Lawrence Koscianski	John P. Murray	Dennis J. Sullivan
Stanley Kotlarz	Tina L. Muscare	John Surane
Ronald S. Kovacs	Bernice Noreika	James F. Sutera
John H. Kowal	John J. O'Brien	Jean Swierczynski
Georgina M. Kroll	Jamie O'Callaghan	Thomas M. Tafel
James LaFaire	Joseph O'Connor	Richard J. Ternes

**Annuitant, Widow & Disability Monthly Contributions (cont.)**

Robert M. Terzich	Robert Valentinas	Thomas Wiltzius
Anthony P. Thomas	Edgar J. Wagner Jr.	James Winbush
William L. Thomsen	George W. Walsh	Thomas P. Wisniewski
Elizabeth Tinaglia	John G. Wassinger	Edward G. Witowski
Daniel Toth	Jean A. White	Robert J. Wojcik
Michael T. Town	Frank J. Williams	Richard Zordan
Eleanor Tripam	Winston D. Williams	Josephine Zuccarello
John A. Tumpich		

**Active Members Contributing Monthly Via Payroll Deduction \***

James Abbatemarco	Michael Flynn	Anthony Martin	Joseph Ramirez
Robert Bansley	John Franco	Alan Martinez	Richard Ranos
Lee Basile	Ernest Gaichas	Seth Martinez	Jerome Rickert
Steven Bates	William Gallapo	Austin McCarthy	Abel Rivera
Bradley Batka	Jose Garcia	Marc McDermott	Harry Rolston
Daniel Baumgartner	Timothy Geers	John McGill	Thomas P. Ruane
Shelby Beckley	Robert Gemloala	Mike McGrath	Thomas E. Ryan
David Benz	Joseph Gloude	Geoffrey McIntosh	Timothy Ryan
Steven Brazel	Eugene Gomez	Leeann McKay	George Ryback
Robert Burke	Michael Gonzalez	Stephen McMillin	Daniel Sedory
Michael Butkus	Robert Graham	James McNally	Michael J. Shanahan
William Cader	David Griggs	William Monaco	Eugene Shim
Jerry Cambria	Lawrence Grosse	Jeffery Moore	John Siil
Bernard Carey	Gustavo Guerra	Scott Moore	John Skudnig
Patrick Carr	Anthony Guerrieri	Patrick Moran	Michael Smandra
Gerald Carter	Eric Guideh	Anthony Moss	Robert Smiegowski
Patrick Chambers	Jameel Hamilton	Thomas Mulanski	Kevin Smith
Anthony Chavarria	Michael Hein	Patrick Murphy	Paul Stamper
Scott Chibe	Brian Helmold	William Murphy	Joseph Stanislawski
Kyle Cloud	Edward Herrera	Daniel Myers	Joseph Stefansko
Thomas Cody	Peter Houlihan	Christopher Nechvatal	Frank Stephens
Steven Collazo	Dorian Johnson	Kevin Nitsche	James Stoll
Gary Coney	James Johnson	Robert North	Daniel Sullivan
Brian Conrad	Lawrence Kaczmarek	Clarence Norwood	Devin Sullivan
Frank Crossin	Ed Keating	Michael O'Boyle	Dennis Szczepaniak
Alberto Cruz	Michael Kirkpatrick	Gary O'Brien	Scott Telkamp
John Cullina	Garry Konchar	Timothy O'Brien	Timothy Trench
Michael Daly	Anthony Konieczka	Kevin J. O'Connor	Daniel Truesdale
Fernando Diaz	Jeff Koranda	Paul O'Connor	Angelo Tsokolas
Martin F. Doherty	Robert Korn	James O'Donnell	Michael VanArkle
Donald Don	Kevin F. Krahn	Terry O'Donnell	DeShawn Vance
Daniel Draper	Brian Krawczyk	Sherry Olszewski	Edward Waliczek
Charles Duncan	Christopher Kreski	William Oswald	Francis Walsh
Cory Eason	Darin Lamb	Joseph T. Owens	Kevin Ward
Kevin Edgeworth	Neil Lubomski	Bridgette Pacek	Steven Whitters
Daniel Ennesser	Mitchell Ludwig	Jason Peace	Kevin Wirtz
Dan P. Fabrizio	Jeffrey Lyle	Lori Perez	Angelo Zeritis
Michael Feyerer	James Lyons	Roger Perez	Thomas Znavor
Patrick Finn	John Manchester	Robert Pillon	
Sean Finn	Christine Marcus	Scott Przystal	
Roger Fisher	Timothy Markham	David Quintavalle	

\* The above listing does not include all members who have graciously signed up for the Active Payroll Deduction program. This listing represents members that have recently enrolled through the assistance of Local 2 and the stewards. Our appreciation goes out to all members who have chosen to support the Widows' and Children's Assistance Fund.

## RETIREMENT PROCESSING GUIDELINES

### **From the Pension Board**

The Chicago Fire Department and the Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago are keenly aware of the numbers of our members who are eligible for maximum retirement benefits at this time. We are also aware that many factors are involved before any decision to retire is finally reached.

The Fund is providing the following information as a guideline to assist our members in the eventual transition to their retirement:

Call or e-mail a request for a calculation of estimated benefits when you are 6 months to 1 year away from an anticipated retirement date. Fund staff will provide an estimate of benefits in writing. This estimate includes various factors, including age, years of service, time lost, pensionable salaries, contributions and the provisions of the existing pension law in calculating both Final Average Salary, years of service credit and benefit percentage at your requested date. The Fund will not use any non-ratified salary amounts in these calculations.

Fund staff will also conduct a thorough review of your permanent file to ensure that all required certificates are on file and will inform you of any that are lacking. Remember, missing documentation will very likely delay the processing of your application – it's a delay that can be avoided.

### **The City of Chicago Health Insurance Program for Annuity/City of Chicago Health Insurance Program for Active Employees**

There are many factors that may impact your eligibility for or your continued participation in one of the City of Chicago Health Care programs and the amount of monthly premium you may be required to pay.

The Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago works with the City of Chicago Benefits Management Office to ensure that our beneficiaries are correctly enrolled on a timely basis after withdrawal from service and that the applicable premium is forwarded to the City from your monthly annuity.

All other questions about the continuation of these programs or specific questions concerning eligibility should be referred to the Benefits Management Office at (312) 747-8660 (selection 2) for eligibility.

**PRIOR TO RESIGNATION** - Make sure you have received and are satisfied with answers pertaining to the above information. **ONCE you resign, it cannot be rescinded. This means that once paperwork, with your signature has been submitted, we can not reinstate you.**

**RESIGNATION DATE** – Members should contact Personnel at the Chicago Fire Department (312) 746-6920 X 148 to answer questions about formal resignation and to schedule an appointment to resign.

Please contact the Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago to request an appointment to complete an application for retirement benefits. It is our experience that it takes at least 2 hours to complete a normal retirement application. Staff is here to help you and to answer your questions regarding benefits, resignation and the retirement process. Please call the office to request an appointment at 312-726-5823.

You must bring a copy of the City of Chicago End of Employment Form you received from the Chicago Fire Department with you to your retirement application interview.

**FINAL BENEFITS CALCULATIONS AND PRESENTATION TO THE RETIREMENT BOARD** – Upon completion of an application for retirement benefits, Fund staff will make the final calculations pertaining to your benefits. This calculation cannot be completed until your final payroll and corresponding contributions have been received from the City of Chicago.

The majority of members resigning in any given month will have their applications presented to the Board and granted in

## RETIREMENT PROCESSING GUIDELINES (cont)

the subsequent month. Firemen's Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago retirement benefit checks are issued on the last day of the month are paid back to the last date on payroll. Fund staff is diligent in their efforts to avoid delays to members awaiting their first retirement check.

### From CFD Personnel Division

To facilitate this transition, we, at CFD Personnel would like to offer you some insight into the retirement process. Always make an appointment with Personnel at 1-312-746-6961. An appointment to process your retirement information takes approximately 30-40 minutes depending on your specific status and the number of questions you may have. It is our goal to answer all questions to the best of our ability. If there's anything we are not sure about, we will do our best to find the answer for you as quickly as we can.

All exits (known as Exit Interviews) are scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 0800 to 1700 hours. If you are unable to schedule an appointment on those days, contact Support Services at 312-745-4178 for assistance. Please be prompt. If, for any reason you are unable to attend, contact Personnel. You will be rescheduled.

If you change your mind about retirement, please inform Personnel **PRIOR** to completing the paperwork. **Keep in mind, once the paperwork is signed, the documents can not be rescinded.** Cancellation of retirement status after signing the paperwork, is governed by the Department of Human Resources and the Personnel Rules. Completing the paperwork is an important step in the retirement process, please be sure about this critical step in your career.

Retiring requires financial preparation. At the time of separation, please make sure you have enough savings to be able to survive for at least two (2) months without income. Depending on the date you chose to retire, you could be waiting for your first pension check to arrive for up to eight (8) weeks. Therefore, be prepared. Start setting aside savings for mortgage payments, utility bills, food, etc. There is nothing we can do to expedite the process.

Do not expect your furlough buyout check to arrive for six (6) to eight (8) weeks. Documentation needed for the calculation of the furlough check amount comes from various units within the department. Furlough checks are also dependent upon all indebtedness being paid. If you owe the CITY OF CHICAGO any tickets, water bills or were overpaid in any way at any given time and you didn't repay, the City will withhold this amount from your furlough buyout check. Save all receipts for any indebtedness paid to the CITY OF CHICAGO in case an error is made by the Department of Revenue. We will run a check of your indebtedness status prior to processing your furlough buyout check. Again, save your receipts.

If you intend to roll any part of your furlough money into your Deferred Compensation account, you need to contact them prior to the issuance of a check. If the proper paperwork has been sent to Finance, you can probably defer most of it prior to issuance and avoid any extra taxation by the CITY OF CHICAGO.

To summarize:

1. Select a retirement date.
2. Contact the Pension Board for estimates.
3. If you wish to proceed, call Personnel for an appointment.
4. Contact the Pension Board for an appointment as well. See if they can give you one for the same day. Never show up without an appointment.
5. Keep your appointment on the scheduled date to complete documentation. (No uniform necessary).
6. Take the copy of the City of Chicago End of Employment Form your appointment with the Pension Board.
7. Return all uniforms and gear to the Commissary and bring the receipt to Personnel after your last day on the Payroll.
8. Make sure you set aside some money to carry you through the income gap you will experience between the last day on the payroll and your first Pension check.
9. When the Furlough check is out, you will receive a call. You need an ID to pick it up. It **will not** be mailed.

To all those who retire, we wish you good health with which to enjoy your retirement.

## PENSION FUND OFFICE OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

The Pension Fund Office is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

The Fund Office is closed on the following holidays:

New Year's Day  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Lincoln's Birthday  
Washington's Birthday  
Pulaski Day  
Memorial Day  
July 4th  
Labor Day  
Columbus Day  
Veterans' Day  
Thanksgiving  
Christmas



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