

March 2019  
1st Qtr Newsletter

# Louisiana State Police Retirement System

## From The Director's Chair...

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### Staff Directory

Irwin L. Felps, Jr.  
Executive Director

Kimberly A. Gann  
Assistant Director

Tausha E. Facundus  
Benefits Specialist

Shelley S. Sebastian  
Administrative Asst.

Stephen M. Griffin,  
CPA, Griffin & Co.

### Contact Information

9224 Jefferson Hwy  
Baton Rouge, LA  
70809

(225)295-8400  
(800)256-5210  
(225)295-8408 Fax

[www.lsprs.org](http://www.lsprs.org)

email: [info@lsprs.org](mailto:info@lsprs.org)

Today is the first day of Spring, and Spring is always a time of hope, joy and new beginnings. As I write this letter, it is certainly a time when we are hopeful and optimistic. Our system has enjoyed a string of very positive investment returns, and as a result a strengthening of our financial condition. However, there is no shortage of issues to be concerned about, in this letter, I will mention a few that I am focusing my attention.

From a legislative perspective, it should be a relatively quiet season as we have only one bill the board is sponsoring, Senate Bill 16 is authored by Senator Gerald Long, and it will clarify the option for a retiring trooper to transfer his/her backdrop funds to our third-party administrator, Empower Retirement. I do not have any concern about this bill, as it is a technical bill simply clarifying a retiring trooper's option to roll his/her money, tax-free to Empower. Another bill that is much more worrisome is House Bill 28 by Representative Barry Ivey. House Bill 28 will not change our present retirement system for troopers already employed, but it will establish a hybrid retirement plan for troopers hired after July 1, 2020. The hybrid plan will involve a defined benefit component and a defined contribution component. The defined benefit portion of the hybrid plan would have an accrued rate of 1.33% and might be compared to a social security type benefit. The defined contribution portion of the hybrid plan would include contribution from the trooper at a rate of 12% of pay each month. In my opinion, this plan would create a serious recruiting and retention problem for State Police. Since this bill does not include the Sheriff's and Municipal Police, it would certainly give these systems an advantage over State Police in recruiting. I will do everything I can to get this bill stopped and/or have the State Police removed from this bill.

The investment issue is that interest rates and the stock market continue to be very volatile with a downward trend. Through February, our investments are down 1.30% for the first eight months of this fiscal year. Although the markets in the month of March have been up slightly, it is going to be a real challenge to reach our target of 7% by the end of June. The markets continue to be focused on our trade issues with China, global growth concerns and the federal reserve bank's policy on interest rates. This is always a tense time of the year for us at your retirement system, and this year will not be different.

It is always an honor and privilege for us to help you with your retirement needs. Please let us know, if you need any assistance from us.

*All the best,  
Irwin L. Felps, Jr.*



Louisiana State Police Retirement System Building located at 9224 Jefferson Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

### CALEF Third Annual Golf Classic Protective Vests Benefit

The Capital Area Law Enforcement Foundation (CALEF) will hold its third annual golf classic on Monday, April 8, 2019 at the Santa Maria Golf Course, 18460 Santa Maria Pkwy, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There will be two tee times, 8AM and 1:30 PM. Seventy-two teams available (4-Man Teams). You may obtain information online at CALEF.LA.

For more information contact Carl Dabadie at 225-413-9937 or [calefgolf@gmail.com](mailto:calefgolf@gmail.com).

### Trustee Spotlight

#### Senator Barrow Peacock, Bossier City, Louisiana

This month's trustee spotlight is on Senator Barrow Peacock, Bossier City, Louisiana. Senator Peacock represents Senate District 37 of the Shreveport-Bossier area. Senator Peacock serves on the following legislative committees: Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and Rural Development, Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs, Labor and Industrial Relations, and the Retirement Committee. As Chairman of the Senate Retirement Committee, Senator Peacock has been instrumental in providing guidance will all of LSPRS's legislation. We are grateful to have Senator Peacock serve on our board.

#### Helpful Contact Information

Insurance Changes:  
Wanda Stewart (225)-925-6004

Group Benefits and MedImpact:  
(800)272-8451,  
[www.groupbenefits.org](http://www.groupbenefits.org)

Blue Cross:  
(800)392-4089,  
[www.bcbsla.com](http://www.bcbsla.com)

Vantage:  
(888)823-1910, [www.vhpla.com](http://www.vhpla.com)

Peoples Health: (866)912-8304

AFLAC:  
(800)992-3522, [www.aflac.com](http://www.aflac.com)

American Public:  
(800)256-8606,  
[www.ampublic.com](http://www.ampublic.com)

Colonial:  
(800)325-4368,  
[www.coloniallife.com](http://www.coloniallife.com)

LSTA: (225)928-2000,  
(800)782-5782

Social Security Office:  
(800)772-1213,  
[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)



Catch us on Facebook-Look for La State Police Retirement System!

**Moving? Be sure to keep LSPRS updated on your current contact information. You can call, fax, or email with an address change.**

#### In Memory Of...

Mrs. Rita Nelson, DOD 09/17/18  
Mr. Edward Ivy, DOD 12/26/18  
Mrs. Joan Walker, DOD 01/11/19  
Mr. Frank E. Miller, DOD 02/03/19  
Mrs. Thelma Porter, DOD 02/13/19

Mr. Reuben Sherrill, DOD 10/29/18  
Mr. Herbert P. Salard, DOD 01/06/19  
Mr. Rogers Trahan, DOD 02/01/19  
Mr. Leroy Broussard, DOD 02/03/19  
Ms. Mercedes Roux, DOD 03/04/19

*Reminder: Monthly benefit payments are made on the last business day of each month. Please contact the office prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month if changes are needed to your banking information.*