

December 2018
4th Qtr Newsletter

Louisiana State Police Retirement System

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From The Director's Chair...

Our calendar year-end 2018 is rapidly approaching, and there are many topics that I need to share with you. The topics include: our audit report, our actuarial report and our investment performance. The LSPRS board received the audit report, performed by Heinz and Macaluso, on October 26th. I was very pleased with the clean audit that had no findings or issues with management's control and operations. These reports are often taken for granted, but from my perspective they are a critical part of assuring each of you that your system is being managed in a prudent manner.

The actuarial report was again presented by Greg Curran, and the report indicated that the system continued to show improvement in all areas of our financial strength. Among the most significant areas of improvement were: 1) the market value of our assets grew from \$782 million to \$866 million, 2) the funded ratio of our system increased from 72.91% to 74.34%, 3) the employer contribution rate dropped from 47.4% to 43.1%, and 4) the DROP rate was 7.72% compared to 7.73% in 2017. Given these factors, the 2018 fiscal year was another year of gradual improvement for LSPRS.

After enjoying two very good years of investment performance in 2017 and 2018, we are experiencing a return to increased volatility in the stock and bond market. Through October 31, 2018, our return for these first months of fiscal year 2019 is a negative return of -3.9%. To make matters more concerning, the month of November and early December are pointing to additional downward volatility. I am very concerned about this trend, but I am still focusing on the solid fundamentals of our country's economy and the relatively strong economy of other parts of the world. Hopefully, these fundamentals will drive the markets in a positive direction as the fiscal year continues.

In closing I would like to express my appreciation for another year of serving as the director of your retirement system. I pray that each of you will enjoy a wonderful Christmas season, and enjoy a healthy and prosperous New Year.

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





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

DROP Interest Rate Posted

The fiscal year end DROP rate was approved by the Board of Trustees at its October 2018 meeting. The LSPRS will post 7.72% to all qualified DROP accounts. Annual statements will be mailed out after the DROP interest has been posted.

Trustee Spotlight

Representative Sam Jones, Franklin, Louisiana

This month's trustee spotlight is on Representative Sam Jones of Franklin, Louisiana. Representative Jones has been a member of the LSPRS board since 2017. In addition to his board position, Representative Jones is a member of the Investment Committee. In the Legislature, Representative Jones serves as Vice Chairman of the Retirement Committee and on the Atchafalaya Basin Oversight Committee. Since becoming a part of our board, Representative Jones has provided keen insight into retirement issues. In a relatively short time on the board, Representative Jones has become a very valuable member in helping guide our board to prudent decisions.

Keeping Up With Your System

There are many ways that you can remain current on events and happenings here at LSPRS. This newsletter is a great way to keep up with what is going on at the system along with checking out the LSPRS website at www.lsprs.org. You can also check us out on Facebook by liking our Louisiana State Police Retirement System official page. And, as always, you can give us a call at 225-295-8400 or 800-256-5210. We look forward to hearing from you as always!

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

Helpful Contact Information

- Insurance Changes:
Neisha Bates (225)-925-3853
- Group Benefits and MedImpact:
(800)272-8451,
www.groupbenefits.org
- Blue Cross:
(800)392-4089,
www.bcbsla.com
- Vantage:
(888)823-1910, www.vhpla.com
- Peoples Health: (866)912-8304
- AFLAC:
(800)992-3522, www.aflac.com
- American Public:
(800)256-8606,
www.ampublic.com
- Colonial:
(800)325-4368,
www.coloniallife.com
- LSTA: (225)928-2000,
(800)782-5782
- Social Security Office:
(800)772-1213,
www.socialsecurity.gov

In Memory Of...

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| <i>Mrs. Ann Singletary, DOD 07/30/18</i> | <i>Mr. Henry Wilson, Sr., DOD 09/09/18</i> |
| <i>Mr. Brudley Kibodeaux, DOD 09/18/18</i> | <i>Mr. Terry "T.C" Shirley, DOD 09/24/18</i> |
| <i>Mrs. Stella Fritcher, DOD 10/02/18</i> | <i>Mrs. Adrienne Pizzolato, DOD 10/21/18</i> |
| <i>Mrs. Betty Cornett, DOD 11/04/18</i> | <i>Mr. Alexander Simmons, Jr., DOD 11/17/18</i> |

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