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## **From The Director's Chair...**

The financial markets rallied through year end, with technology-related companies and online shopping platforms continuing to take the lead. Looking at the market indices, the Dow Industrials had a total return of 9.7%, significantly trailing the broader S&P 500 return of 18.4%. Smaller capitalized stocks, as measured by the NASDAQ Composite, advanced 43% for the year. There was broad divergence between growth stocks vs value stocks; the total return of the Russell 1000 Growth index was 38.5%, while the Russell 1000 Value index was only 2.8%.

The equity portion of our portfolio, including domestic and international, was up 19.83% for the year, while fixed income increased 6.52%. For the year, our investment portfolio had a total return of 13.34%. In addition, the portfolio crossed a major threshold, having \$1,052,019,991 in assets.

As we look forward into 2021, we anticipate increased volatility in the financial markets. Contributing factors include a potential increase in inflationary pressures, the upward trend in commodity prices, and the scaling back of government supported (taxpayer funded) stimulus programs. On a positive note, significant declines in the number of COVID-19 cases, coupled with a broadening distribution of the vaccines, may allow us all to return to a "new-normal" lifestyle.

On the legislation front, the 2021 Regular Session is gearing up, and there are currently five pre-filed bills that directly impact the LA State Police Retirement System. Following is a brief summary:

- SB 13, Allows for the upgrade of the accrual rate applicable to previously transferred service credit.
- SB 18, Provides for the reemployment of retired LA State Troopers as WAEs, while removing some of the current limitations imposed on these reemployed retirees.
- SB 23, Provides OGB insurance coverage for the spouse and children of members killed in the line of duty. Additionally, the bill provides an annual increase in the retirement benefit payment for those survivors of members killed in the line of duty by an intentional act of violence.
- HB 24, Authorizes members of the Louisiana State Police Retirement System to purchase additional service credits at the time of retirement.
- SB 24, Provides a minimum benefit increase, or one-time non-reoccurring benefit payment, for certain retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, and State Police Retirement System.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Firearms Qualifications (See page 2).

*Kevin P. Reed*





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

**LSTA Annual Retiree Firearm Qualification**

The LSP Training Academy and LSTA will be hosting a firearm qualification for LSP retirees on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 0730 hours. The LSTA will provide breakfast. The event will be held at the Joint Emergency Services Training Center (JESTC), 1400 W. Irene Road, Zachary, LA 70791. If you plan to attend, please bring your last POST Qualification card (if you have it). If you have not POST qualified in the last 13 months, you will undergo a pre-academy class which consists of firing 4 POST courses and classroom work. There is no need to RSVP for this event. Please arrive by 0730. The first relay is at 0800.



**IN MEMORY OF...**

**RETIREES**

- Jimmie L. Allen, DOD: 01/05/2021
- Henry A. Heltz, Sr., DOD: 12/27/2020
- August C. McKay, III, DOD: 12/30/2020
- Johnny B. Mitchell, DOD: 01/26/2021
- Claude w. Morein, DOD: 02/17/2021
- Robert R. Patrick, DOD: 02/09/2021
- Charles E. Shaffett, DOD: 02/06/2021
- John B. Thompson, Jr., DOD: 12/29/2020
- William J. Thompson, DOD: 01/22/2021
- Donald J. Villarrubia, DOD: 01/04/2021

**SURVIVING SPOUSES/CHILDREN**

- Judith N. Arton, DOD: 01/10/2021, Spouse of Nicholas J. Arton
- Shirley (Holcomb) Hoggat: DOD: 12/03/2020, Spouse of Charles Holcomb
- Janelle Manuel, DOD: 02/16/2021, Spouse of Charles B. Manuel
- Carolyn Prather, DOD: 01/13/2021, Spouse of Charles E. Prather
- Judy F. Varnado, DOD: 12/24/2020, Ex-Spouse of Charles P. Heard
- Melanie Vines, DOD: 12/08/2020, Spouse of Gary Vines

**Correction:** Joel M. Harrell, DOD: 10/17/2020, (incorrectly stated as Michael Harrell)



**Helpful Contact Information**

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**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**

