

Pension Update



Volume 2005.02, February 2005
Dallas Police & Fire Pension System



Planning Your Financial Future

by Steve Umlor

Most Police Officers and Firefighters are aware of the PREP classes that the pension staff has conducted for the past several years. As a result of reviewing the critiques from the members who attended the classes, it was determined that a second class dealing with additional investment information would be beneficial. This new class, referred to as Financial Planning, was developed last year and will be offered six times during 2005. The Financial Planning class is taught by Certified Financial Planners. The subject matter covered by this class includes money management, investment principles, college funding, long-term care, estate planning and survivor benefits.



Steven H. Umlor
Police Trustee

I recently attended one of the Financial Planning classes and found it to be interesting and informational. The material was presented by professional financial planners in a way that was easily understood. TCLEOS credit is available for the Police Officers as it is for PREP. Food is provided throughout the day and spouses are welcome to attend. I would encourage you to contact Gail Borneman at the pension office (214.638.3863

[See Financial Planning on page 2](#)

Trustee Election Schedule

Applications due by 4:00 p.m.
February 16, 2005

Trustee Candidate Training
February 23 & February 24

Voting Period
*8:00 a.m. April 1 to
12:00 noon April 11*

New Trustee terms begin
June 1

Trustee Election Spring 2005

In January, the Board of Trustees called for an election to be held this spring to fill one Police Trustee position and one Fire Trustee position that expire May 31, 2005. Trustees are elected for a term of four years and may run for reelection.

Election Process

Members may cast their votes by telephone or on the Internet beginning April 1. Ballots and voting instructions will be mailed to Members' home addresses on file with the City of Dallas. If you have changed your address, please contact the appropriate office in your department as soon as possible to have your address updated.

[See Trustee Election on page 2](#)

Trustee Election from page 1

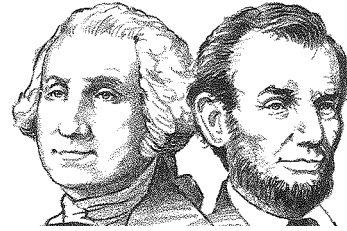
Running for Office

Any Active Member who would like to become a candidate in the Trustee Election must complete the following:

- Sign form acknowledging receipt of application and attachments
- Return completed application to Pension System office by 4:00 p.m. February 16, 2005
- Attend training session on either February 23 or 24 (except current Trustees running for reelection).

Trusteeship

The time requirements and other obligations of a Trustee are explained in the material included in the candidate application packet. This information will help you decide whether or not you want to become a member of the Board of Trustees.



Happy President's Day

Financial Planning from page 1

or 1.800.638.3861) to sign up for one of the remaining 2005 classes. Financial Planning sessions will be conducted on the following dates:

- March 16
- May 18
- July 27
- November 7
- December 2

If you have any questions regarding this article or any other pension related concerns feel free to contact me at 214 670-0218.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve H. Underwood".

**Pension System
Calendar**

- ◆ **February 21-** Presidents' Day-
Pension Office Closed
- ◆ **March 10**—Board meeting
- ◆ **March 12**—DFFA Easter Egg Hunt
- ◆ **March 16**—Financial Planning Seminar
- ◆ **April 14**—Board meeting

2005 EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 12th
Registration Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 a.m.

at the Dallas Fire - Rescue Training Center
5000 Dolphin Road, Dallas, Texas 75223

All children and grandchildren, age 10 and under, of active and retired Dallas Fire Fighters are welcome.

For additional information:

Congratulations Retirees!

Police Department



Thomas A. Seymour
Marcia M. Snowden
James C. Swinney

Fire Department

David Brewer
Jerry W. Chambers
Edward H. Coe
Roy W. Ferrell
Donald R. Hawkins
Stephen N. Paris
Ronald H. Reid
Daryl Stauffer



Test Your Pension IQ

Take this multiple choice quiz to test your knowledge of Pension terms:

SWAR

- a. Surviving Widow/er After Retiring
- b. Suspicious Widow/er After Retiring
- c. Spouse Wed After Retiring
- d. Special Wedding After Retiring

QDRO

- a. Quantity Dependent Relations Order
- b. Qualified Domestic Relations Order
- c. Qualifying Dependent Relationship Order
- d. Qualified Dependents Relationship Order

DROP

- a. Declining Rising Option Pension
- b. Deferred Retirement Option Pension
- c. Deferred Retirement Option Plan
- d. Depending on Relatives Option Plan

FMLA

- a. Futile Medical Leave Application
- b. Female Medical Leave Application
- c. Family Medical Leave Act
- d. Fleeing Medical Lab Assistant

J & S ANNUITY OPTION

- a. Jewels & Silver Annuity Option
- b. Join & Save Annuity Option
- c. Joint & Survivor Annuity Option
- d. Joint & Simple Annuity Option

If you need a refresher on your pension benefits, here are a few things you can do:

- Attend educational seminars, including Pre-retirement and financial planning.
- Visit our website for useful information (www.dpfp.org).
- Call the pension office and speak with one of our retirement counselors.

Annual Statements

Your 2005 *Benefit Statement* or 2005 *DROP Statement* will be mailed to your home address by the end of February. These statements provide information to help in your personal financial planning.

The *Benefit Statement* provides pension estimates and other information to help you understand your pension benefits. Your *Benefit Statement* is based on payroll records provided by the City of Dallas. It is important that you verify your personal information shown on page 5 of your statement, including your contribution amounts and your service dates. If you find any discrepancies, please advise the Pension System office.

DROP participants will receive a *DROP Statement*. The statement provides your current DROP balance and a projection of your DROP account through September 30, 2005, when the rate of interest changes. We ask for your help in reviewing your statement as part of our effort to check the accuracy of our records. If you see an item that is incorrect, please ask us to review your file.

Active Members have found it helpful to attend a PREP (Pre-Retirement Education Program) after five years of service and then again when close to retirement. Call the Pension System office for a schedule and to reserve a space. We recommend that you discuss your benefits and options with a Benefits Counselor at the Pension System office and with your financial advisor before making any final decisions regarding your retirements.

The information in your *Benefit Statement* or *DROP Statement* will help you plan for your retirement. If you have any questions or do not receive your statement by March 10, please contact the Pension System office at 214.638.3863. You also may send your questions to us via e-mail at info@dpfp.org.



**2301 North Akard Street
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Serving Those Who Protect the Dallas Community

Check out DPFP.org for Helpful Information

by Richard L. Tettamant, Administrator

The Dallas Police and Fire Pension website, www.dpfp.org, is a great resource for information regarding your Pension System. We invite you to explore the wealth of details available there. We have recently added a "Hot Topics" section to the Home Page. This will be used to provide you with input on any issue that may potentially affect you, such as the City's current problem with health insurance deductions.

You will also find board meeting agendas and minutes, upcoming election information, information on Board Trustees and the Pension System staff and a section on frequently asked benefit questions, among many other topics.

In response to several requests, the Board has researched the idea of creating a secure website where Members' personal financial information could be safely displayed for such things as calculating DROP amounts. The cost to program a secure site was found to be excessive and therefore the Board has decided not to use Pension funds to implement it at this time.

For more Member or Pensioner information, please contact us via e-mail at info@dpfp.org or call the Pension System office at 214.638.3863 or 1.800.638.3861.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Gerald Brown, Chairman
Steven G. Shaw, Vice Chairman
Gary W. Edge, Deputy Vice-Chairman**

**Donald W. Hill
John M. Mays
Rector C. McCollum
Maxine Thornton-Reese
George J. Tomasovic
Steven H. Umlor
Richard H. Wachsman**

**Richard L. Tettamant,
Administrator**

**Brian F. Blake
Assistant Administrator**

**Donald C. Rohan,
Assistant Administrator**

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Visit our Website at
www.dpfp.org
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info@dpfp.org