

First Responder

Volume 2008.03 -- March 2008

City Council Trustees Appointed to Board

In accordance with the Plan Document, the Dallas City Council has selected four City Council Members to fill the open City Council places on the Pension System Board of Trustees.

The new Trustees are Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine R. Caraway, Vonciel Jones Hill, Pauline Medrano, and David A. Neumann.

Dwaine R. Caraway serves Council District 4 of the City of Dallas. In addition to his duties as Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, he holds the chair of the Marketing Task Force, the vice chair of the Public Safety committee, and

serves on various other committees.

Vonciel Jones Hill serves Council District 5 of the City of Dallas and as Vice Chair of the Quality of Life and Government Services Committee of the Dallas City Council.

Ms. Hill holds a law degree from UT, masters degrees from Atlanta University, Rice University, and SMU, and an honorary doctorate from Paul Quinn College.

Pauline Medrano serves Council District 2 of the City of Dallas and as Chair of the

Quality of Life and Government Services Committee of the Dallas City Council.

David A. Neumann serves Council District 3 of the City of Dallas and as Chairman of the Trinity River Corridor Project Committee of the Dallas City Council.

Mr. Neumann attended and graduated Indiana University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business – Finance. Upon graduation in 1982, he relocated to Dallas, Texas and has been active within the community .



Dwaine R. Caraway

Photo by Gittings



Vonciel Jones Hill



Pauline Medrano



David A. Neumann

Photo by Gittings

Retiring with the Pension System

Deciding when to retire and choosing your pension benefit options are very important financial decisions. By reading this information, you are already taking an important step toward planning your retirement!

When can I start receiving benefits?

Your years of Pension Service and, in some cases, your age determine when you can begin receiving pension benefits. To receive full service pension benefits, you must have at least five years of Pension Service credit and have reached age 50. You can receive a reduced pension benefit at age 45 with five years of Pension Service or at any age with 20 years of Pension Service.

How will I receive benefits?

You can choose to receive a monthly pension benefit or you can defer your monthly pension benefit into a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) account. Even if you are not in DROP, you may join when you retire. If you have a DROP account at retirement, you may add to your DROP account, leave your money in DROP, or you may take part or all of your money out of DROP.

What are my next steps?

1. Attend educational programs provided by the Pension System—such as a Pre-Retirement Education Program (PREP) session—to learn about your options and to begin planning for retirement.

2. Schedule a meeting with a Benefits Counselor two to three

months before you plan to retire. You will need to bring the following documents:

- Birth certificate
- Marriage license
- Spouse's birth certificate
- Birth certificates of your children age 19 or younger

3. Meet with the City of Dallas Human Resources Department to learn about other City benefits you may be entitled to receive after retirement.

What will happen in my counseling session?

A Benefits Counselor will provide a Pension Benefit Application Form and explain:

- Your retirement options
- Estimates of your benefits
- Survivor benefits
- Post-retirement increases

When do my benefits start?

The Board of Trustees reviews and approves all retirements during its monthly meetings. Your first benefit payment will be made at the end of the month in which the Board approves your retirement. Payments will be made at the end of each month thereafter.

This is a general overview of retirement from the Pension System. It is intended to increase your awareness of the options available to you, but it does not give legal or financial advice or provide enough details for you to make decisions. For additional information, refer to your Member

Handbook, the Plan Document, or attend the Pension System's educational programs. You also may contact a Benefits Counselor via e-mail, or call the Pension System office at 214.638.3863 or 1.800.638.3861. You also should consider obtaining advice from a tax consultant or financial advisor of your choice before deciding when to retire and how to receive your pension benefit.

PENSION SYSTEM CALENDAR

- March 13, 2008
Monthly Board Meeting
- March 18, 2008
PREP Seminar
- April 10, 2008
Monthly Board Meeting
- April 23, 2008
Financial Planning Seminar
- May 6, 2008
PREP Seminar
- June 17, 2008
Financial Planning Seminar
- August 7, 2008
PREP Seminar

Our Sincere Condolences

The Pension System Board of Trustees and staff wish to express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Fire-Rescue Officer Charles E. Whitaker, who passed away on Wednesday, February 6, 2008.

He is survived by his wife, Erika Whitaker; a son, Erick Eaves; and a daughter, Bria Whitaker.

Chief Burns said, "As firefighters, we share a special bond that unifies us to do extraordinary work... Charles Whitaker led a life rich in meaning. His contribution to the department, to the city, has touched many lives."



Fire-Rescue Officer Charles Whitaker

A fund has been established to assist the Charles Whitaker Family. Dallas Fire Rescue Firefighter Memorial for Charles E. Whitaker, City Credit Union - Attn. Jack Coffey, 7474 Ferguson Road, Dallas, TX 75228, (214) 515-0100.

Health Fair at Fire Training Center

Fire and Police Health Fair 2008 will be held at the Dodd Miller Training Facility at 5000 Dolphin Road. The Fair will run April 11 from 7 a.m. to noon and April 12 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ultrasounds, low cost blood work, mammograms, free 12 lead EKG's, and other services will be available. Special activities for children will be available both days, with more concentration on April 12. Food for attendees will also be available on April 12.

The fair is open to active members, department retirees and all family members. For more information, contact Carol Lawrence RN BSN at carol.lawrence@dallascityhall.com.

DPD CAPERS Retirees Invite Active Personnel to Dinner Meeting

Retired personnel from the Crimes Against Persons Division of the Dallas Police Department meet for dinner periodically, and would like to invite any interested active personnel to join them.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 3, 6 p.m., at Steak and Ale, located at 1957 Northwest Highway in Garland.

The organizers are requesting an RSVP by April 1, 2008. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Tom Willingham, at 214.289.9134.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW RETIREES!

FIRE-RESCUE

Larry D. Biggerstaff

Mark A. Ferguson

Kenneth L. Hoaldrige

Robert W. Tramel

Lonnie B. Tutt

POLICE

Charles L. Avery

Timothy P. Bordelon

Deborah A. Branton

Gary A. Colecchi

Jesse R. Dawson, Jr.

Ronald W. Miles

Mark J. Tarver



2301 N. Akard Street
Suite 200
Dallas, Tx 75201

FIRST CLASS
PRESORT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #2454
DALLAS, TX



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Gerald Brown
Chairman
- Steven G. Shaw
Vice Chairman
- Gary W. Edge
Deputy Vice Chairman
- Dwaine R. Caraway
- Vonciel Jones Hill
- John M. Mays
- Rector C. McCollum
- Pauline Medrano
- David A. Neumann
- George J. Tomasovic
- Steven H. Umlor
- Richard H. Wachsman

First Responder
March 2008

From the Administrator

By Richard L. Tettamant,
Pension System Administrator



Greetings! Spring will be here this month, and I hope all is well with each of you.

Recently you may have seen stories in the media about credit concerns in the market place, including money market funds and the issues with sub prime mortgage investments.

I want to take this opportunity to assure you that the System's money market assets are safe. The System's money market funds assets are managed by JPMorgan Chase, the System's bank custodian, in a fund called the JP Morgan Chase Bank Liquidity Fund.

We reviewed the money fund with the bank custodian and we want you to know that we have no exposure to sub-prime mortgages.

As always, please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Richard L. Tettamant
Richard L. Tettamant

ADMINISTRATION

- Richard L. Tettamant
Administrator
- Brian F. Blake
Assistant Administrator
- Donald C. Rohan
Assistant Administrator
- Everard Davenport
General Counsel
- Mike Taylor
Chief Financial Officer

2301 N. Akard Street,
Ste. 200
Dallas, Texas 75201
214.638.3863
1.800.638.3861
www.dpfp.org
info@dpfp.org

The ***First Responder*** newsletter is published monthly by the **Dallas Police & Fire Pension System** for all Active Members.

Kevin W. Killingsworth
Editor