

**South Carolina Police Officers
Retirement System (PORS)**

ACTUARIAL VALUATION

July 1, 2003

May 4, 2004

State Budget and Control Board
South Carolina Retirement System
P.O. Box 11960
Columbia, SC 29211-1960

Subject: July 1, 2003 Actuarial Valuation for PORS

This is the July 1, 2003, actuarial valuation for the South Carolina Police Officers Retirement System (PORS). This report reflects the new assumptions and methods as described in the July 1, 2003 experience study, and adopted by the Budget and Control Board on April 20, 2004.

Basic Contribution Requirements

Our valuation finds the PORS in good actuarial condition. The current plan benefits are adequately funded by the current contribution levels which consist of employee contributions of 6.5% of pay and employer contributions of 10.30% of pay for Class II members.

The 10.30% employer contribution rate is the sum of a 7.05% rate for the employer's share of the normal cost contributions, and a 3.25% rate used to amortize the unfunded liability. (These are the rates for Class II members.) The calculated funding period is now 11 years. This is the theoretical length of time that will be required to amortize the unfunded liability, based on the current amortization rate and the current benefit structure. Based on the previous actuarial valuation, the funded liability was expected to be eliminated in 15 years. The decrease in the amortization period is due to the changes adopted in the July 1, 2003 experience study, offset by the 2.4% cost-of-living adjustment, made effective July 1, 2003, and the actuarial investment losses.

We have also determined that the Group Life Insurance employer contribution of 0.20% and the accidental death benefit employer contribution of 0.20% are both reasonable and will adequately fund the expected benefit payments. The separate funds for these benefits have built sufficient reserves.

Changes in System Benefits, Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

This actuarial valuation reflects the current provisions of the System as outlined on Table XI. The principal benefit provisions have remained the same since the last actuarial valuation.

The actuarial assumptions and methods are outlined in Table X. These assumptions and methods have changed since the July 1, 2002 valuation. The changes, described in detail in the July 1, 2003 experience study, were adopted on April 20, 2004.

Valuation Data

This valuation was based on 23,871 active members with a payroll of \$800.4 million. This represents a decrease in the number of active members of about 0.4% and an increase of 5.7% in covered payroll since the previous year's valuation.

The number of people receiving benefits increased since the last valuation by 9.4%. The annual benefits being paid increased by about 13.6%. This takes into account the 2.4% COLA that was effective July 1, 2003.

Valuation Assets

The market value of the PORS assets as of July 1, 2003, was \$2.46 billion. The comparable figure one year before was \$2.24 billion. The market value rate of investment return on assets for the 2002-2003 year was 9.8%, net of administrative and investment expenses.

For purposes of the actuarial valuation, we are using an actuarial value of assets that each year smoothes the difference between the expected actuarial value (based on the 7.25% investment return assumption) and actual market value over a five year period. This actuarial value as of July 1, 2003, was \$2.51 billion as compared to \$2.35 billion the previous year. The estimated rate of return on an actuarial value basis was 6.2%. Note the actuarial value is larger than the market value. The actuarial value of assets is 102.0% of market value. The difference will be recognized over the next four years, and this will result in a longer amortization period, in the absence of offsetting actuarial gains.

Unfunded Liability and Experience Factors

After recognizing the actuarial value of assets, the unfunded liability as of July 1, 2003, was \$233.5 million. There was an increase in unfunded liability of \$56.7 million. The factors causing the increase (in millions) are:

Required amortization payment	\$ (1.3)
Assumption/method change	69.3
2.4% COLA	27.3
Asset experience	13.1
Salary experience	(32.0)
Other experience	<u>(19.7)</u>
Net change	\$ 56.7

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Calculations

Our report includes information that is required by GASB. The System's funded ratio has decreased slightly since the previous valuation. As of the last valuation the funded ratio was 93.0%, while the current value is 91.5%. In addition, the unfunded liability as a percentage of covered payroll has increased from 23.3% to 29.2%. Both of these effects were principally due to the 2.4% cost-of-living adjustment, effective as of July 1, 2003, the actuarial investment loss, the liability (retirement) losses, and the adoption of the new assumptions.

Census Data and System Assets

The Retirement System staff provided the asset information and the member data for retired, active and inactive participants as of June 30, 2003. We have not subjected this data to any auditing procedures, but have examined the data for reasonableness and consistency with the prior year's data.

Conclusions

In our opinion, the information contained in this actuarial report fairly represents the actuarial condition of the South Carolina Police Officers Retirement System.

We look forward to reviewing this report with the State Budget and Control Board and the Director and staff of the Retirement System.

Sincerely,

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Item	2003	2002
Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Active Members – Retirees and Beneficiaries – Inactive Members – Total • Payroll 	23,871 8,427 <u>8,965</u> 41,263 \$800 million	23,963 7,706 <u>8,675</u> 40,344 \$757 million
Statutory contribution rate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member • Employer (including group life and ADB) 	6.50% 10.70%	6.50% 10.70%
Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market value • Actuarial value • Return on market value • Return on actuarial value • Ratio of actuarial to market value 	\$2.46 billion 2.51 billion 9.8% 6.2% 102.0%	\$2.24 billion 2.35 billion 0.8% 6.0% 105.1%
Actuarial Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer normal cost % • Unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) • Funded ratio • Funding period 	7.05% \$233 million 91.5% 11 years	8.43% \$177 million 93.0% 15 years
Gains/(Losses) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset experience • Salary experience • Other liability experience • COLA • Benefit changes • Assumption/method changes • Total 	\$(13.1) million 32.0 million 19.7 million (27.3) million 0.0 million (69.3) million \$(58.0) million	\$(28.7) million 3.7 million (17.8) million (12.7) million 0.0 million N/A \$(55.5) million

SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL VALUATION RESULTS

	<u>July 1, 2003</u>	<u>July 1, 2002</u>
1. <u>Number of Active Members and Compensation</u>		
a. Total number of active members	23,871	23,963
b. Total compensation	\$ 800,394	\$ 757,393
2. <u>Number of Persons Receiving Benefits and Benefits</u>		
a. Total number receiving benefits	8,427	7,706
b. Total amount of benefits	\$ 133,015	\$ 117,134
3. <u>Trust Fund Assets</u>		
a. Market value	\$ 2,461,222	\$ 2,236,350
b. Actuarial value	\$ 2,511,369	\$ 2,351,100
4. <u>Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)</u>	\$ 233,480	\$ 176,776
5. <u>Remaining Liquidation Period (Years)</u>	11	15
6. <u>Required Contribution as a Percent of Compensation</u>		
a. Normal cost contribution	7.05%	8.43%
b. UAAL contribution	3.25%	1.87%
c. Pre-retirement death contribution	0.20%	0.20%
d. Accidental death contribution	<u>0.20%</u>	<u>0.20%</u>
e. Total	10.70%	10.70%

All dollar amounts in thousands

DETERMINATION AND AMORTIZATION OF UNFUNDED LIABILITY

	<u>July 1, 2003</u>	<u>July 1, 2002</u>
1. <u>Actuarial Present Value of Future Benefits</u>		
a. Present retired members and beneficiaries	\$ 1,265,173	\$ 1,136,998
b. Present active and inactive members	<u>2,333,660</u>	<u>2,413,079</u>
c. Total Actuarial Present Value	\$ 3,598,833	\$ 3,550,077
2. <u>Present Value of Future Normal Contributions</u>		
a. Employee at 6.50%	\$ 416,563	\$ 445,031
b. Employer at 7.05%	<u>437,421</u>	<u>577,170</u>
c. Total Future Normal Contributions	\$ 853,984	\$ 1,022,201
3. <u>Actuarial Accrued Liability = 1.c. – 2.c.</u>	\$ 2,744,849	\$ 2,527,876
4. <u>Current Actuarial Value of Assets</u>	\$ 2,511,369	\$ 2,351,100
5. <u>Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability = 3. – 4.</u>	\$ 233,480	\$ 176,776
6. <u>Unfunded Accrued Liability Rate</u>	3.25%	1.87%
7. <u>Unfunded Accrued Liability Liquidation Period</u>	11 years	15 years

All dollar amounts in thousands

DEVELOPMENT OF ACTUARIAL VALUE OF ASSETS

Item (1)	Valuation as of July 1, 2003 (2)
1. Excess (shortfall) of investment income for current year and previous three years (see Table IV):	
a. Current year	\$ 57,490
b. Current year -1	(143,238)
c. Current year -2	(1,635)
d. Current year -3	(47,712)
2. Deferral of excess (shortfall) of investment income for:	
a. Current year (80% deferral)	\$ 45,992
b. Current year -1 (60% deferral)	(85,943)
c. Current year -2 (40% deferral)	(654)
d. Current year -3 (20% deferral)	<u>(9,542)</u>
e. Total deferred for year	\$ (50,147)
3. Market value of plan assets, end of year	\$ 2,461,222
4. Preliminary actuarial value of plan assets, end of year (Item 3 - Item 2.e.)	\$ 2,511,369
5. Actuarial value of assets corridor	
a. 80% of market value of assets, end of year	\$ 1,968,978
b. 120% of market value of assets, end of year	\$ 2,953,466
6. Final actuarial value of plan assets, end of year (Item 4, but not less than Item 5.a., or greater than Item 5.b.)	\$ 2,511,369

All dollar amounts in thousands

CALCULATION OF EXCESS INVESTMENT INCOME FOR ACTUARIAL VALUE OF ASSETS

Item	Plan Year Ending June 30,			
	2003	2002	2001	2000
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Market value of assets at beginning of year	\$ 2,236,350	\$ 2,197,795	\$ 2,009,860	\$ 1,890,526
2. Net external cash flow during the year	5,063	21,667	42,321	28,934
3. Market value of assets at end of year	2,461,222	2,236,350	2,197,795	2,009,860
4. Actual investment of income during the year based on market value: (3) – (2) – (1)	219,809	16,888	145,614	90,400
5. Assumed earnings rate	7.25%	7.25%	7.25%	7.25%
6. Expected earnings for the year				
a. Market value of assets, beginning of year: (5) x (1)	162,135	159,340	145,715	137,063
b. Net external cash flow: (5) x .5 x (2)	184	786	1,534	1,049
c. Total: (a) + (b)	162,319	160,126	147,249	138,112
7. Excess investment income for year: (4) – (6)	\$ 57,490	\$ (143,238)	\$ (1,635)	\$ (47,712)

All dollar amounts in thousands

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

1. **Number of Active and Retired Members as of July 1, 2003**

<u>Group</u>	<u>Number</u>
Retiree and Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	8,427
Terminated Employees Entitled to Benefits But not yet Receiving Benefits	8,965
Active Members	<u>23,871</u>
Total	<u><u>41,263</u></u>

2. **Schedule of Funding Progress**

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b – a)	Funded Ratio (a / b)	Covered Payroll	UAAL as a % of Covered Payroll (c / e)
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
7/1/03	\$2,511,369	\$2,744,849	\$233,480	91.5%	\$800,394	29.2%
7/1/02	2,351,100	2,527,876	176,776	93.0%	757,393	23.3%
7/1/01	2,197,982	2,324,257	126,275	94.6%	757,335	16.7%
7/1/00	2,008,554	2,095,991	87,437	95.8%	716,749	12.2%
7/1/99	1,844,517	1,898,237	53,720	97.2%	638,086	8.4%
7/1/98	1,684,641	1,733,578	48,937	97.2%	606,426	8.1%

All dollar amounts in thousands

3. **Assumptions and Methods**

Valuation date	July 1, 2003
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization method	Level percent open
Remaining amortization period	11 years
Asset valuation method	5 year smoothed market
Actuarial assumptions	
Investment rate of return*	7.25%
Projected salary increases*	4.50% - 11.50%
*Including inflation at	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

VALUATION BALANCE SHEET

	<u>July 1, 2003</u>	<u>July 1, 2002</u>
1. <u>Assets</u>		
a. <u>Current Assets (Actuarial Value)</u>		
i) Employee Annuity Savings Fund	\$ 516,262	\$ 492,178
ii) Employer Annuity Accumulation Fund	<u>1,995,107</u>	<u>1,858,922</u>
iii) Total Current Assets	\$ 2,511,369	\$ 2,351,100
b. <u>Future Member Contributions to Employee Annuity Savings Fund</u>	\$ 416,563	\$ 445,031
c. <u>Prospective Contributions to Employer Annuity Accumulation Fund</u>		
i) Normal Contributions	\$ 437,421	\$ 577,170
ii) Accrued Liability Contributions	<u>233,480</u>	<u>176,776</u>
iii) Total Prospective Employer Contributions	\$ 670,901	\$ 753,946
d. <u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$ 3,598,833</u>	<u>\$ 3,550,077</u>
2. <u>Liabilities</u>		
a. <u>Employee Annuity Savings Fund</u>		
i) Past Member Contributions	\$ 516,262	\$ 492,178
ii) Future Member Contributions	<u>416,563</u>	<u>445,031</u>
iii) Total Contributions to Employee Annuity Savings Fund	\$ 932,825	\$ 937,209
b. <u>Employer Annuity Accumulation Fund</u>		
i) Benefits Currently in Payment	\$ 1,265,173	\$ 1,136,998
ii) Benefits to be Paid to Current Active Members	<u>1,400,835</u>	<u>1,475,870</u>
iii) Total Benefits Payable from Employer Annuity Accumulation Fund	\$ 2,666,008	\$ 2,612,868
c. <u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>\$ 3,598,833</u>	<u>\$ 3,550,077</u>

All dollar amounts in thousands

NUMBER AND ANNUAL RETIREMENT ALLOWANCES OF
 BENEFIT RECIPIENTS AS OF JULY 1, 2003

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Annual Retirement Allowances</u>
1. <u>Service Retirement</u>		
Life Annuity	3,197	\$48,537,442
100% J & S	252	3,222,834
100 % Pop-Up	498	6,927,790
50% J & S	218	4,568,004
50% Pop-Up	644	13,761,712
Level Income	<u>1,396</u>	<u>26,910,125</u>
	6,205	\$103,927,948
2. <u>Disability Retirement</u>		
Life Annuity	1,021	\$16,656,617
100% J & S	73	787,514
100 % Pop-Up	68	775,025
50% J & S	47	629,133
50% Pop-Up	<u>78</u>	<u>1,405,034</u>
	1,287	\$20,253,323
3. <u>Beneficiaries of Deceased Retired Members and Active Members</u>		
Total	935	\$8,833,907
4. <u>Grand Total</u>	8,426	\$133,015,136

DISTRIBUTION OF ACTIVE MEMBERS BY AGE GROUPS AND SERVICE GROUPS AS OF JULY 1, 2003

Years of Service

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>0 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	<u>15 - 19</u>	<u>20 - 24</u>	<u>25 - 29</u>	<u>30 - 34</u>	<u>35 & Over</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 25	1,231	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,237
	\$24,219	\$26,580	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$24,231
25 – 29	2,750	652	3	-	-	-	-	-	3,405
	\$27,870	\$32,205	\$35,543	-	-	-	-	-	\$28,707
30 – 34	2,083	1,939	450	7	-	-	-	-	4,479
	\$28,451	\$33,322	\$37,546	\$39,148	-	-	-	-	\$31,490
35 – 39	1,286	1,125	1,139	478	4	-	-	-	4,032
	\$27,793	\$32,861	\$38,222	\$41,655	\$43,955	-	-	-	\$33,812
40 – 44	1,000	697	668	962	249	17	-	-	3,593
	\$28,554	\$31,957	\$37,510	\$41,658	\$47,656	\$49,762	-	-	\$35,812
45 – 49	847	600	442	499	413	151	4	-	2,956
	\$29,431	\$33,143	\$37,549	\$39,973	\$48,021	\$53,163	\$65,985	-	\$37,037
50 – 54	590	489	389	343	204	158	40	1	2,214
	\$32,273	\$33,322	\$38,160	\$39,326	\$44,632	\$51,775	\$60,908	\$62,926	\$37,693
55 – 59	379	270	243	224	101	69	38	7	1,331
	\$31,762	\$35,036	\$36,742	\$39,823	\$43,360	\$49,350	\$59,402	\$62,315	\$37,434
60 – 64	122	116	94	92	42	20	7	5	498
	\$33,179	\$34,610	\$38,548	\$40,893	\$43,895	\$48,392	\$45,936	\$61,170	\$37,926
65 & Over	35	25	23	22	12	6	2	1	126
	\$36,732	\$36,250	\$36,153	\$38,985	\$53,280	\$50,269	\$45,169	\$65,205	\$39,505
Total	10,323	5,919	3,451	2,627	1,025	421	91	14	23,871
	\$28,224	\$33,042	\$37,791	\$40,820	\$46,675	\$51,612	\$59,005	\$62,156	\$33,530

	<u>Prior Year</u>	<u>Current Year</u>
Average Age	38.93 years	39.03 years
Average Service	7.99 years	8.07 years
Average Pay	\$31,607	\$33,530
Percent Female	25.2%	25.3%

DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPANTS RECEIVING BENEFITS

1. Service Retirement

<u>Current Age Group</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Annual Benefit</u>	<u>Average Annual Benefit</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Under 50	305	\$ 6,252,035	\$20,498
50 – 54	754	17,400,794	23,078
55 – 59	1,186	23,798,994	20,067
60 – 64	1,245	20,142,924	16,179
65 – 69	1,134	15,227,300	13,428
70 – 74	782	10,041,227	12,840
75 – 79	458	6,706,144	14,642
80 & Over	<u>341</u>	<u>4,358,530</u>	<u>12,782</u>
Total	6,205	\$103,927,948	\$16,749

2. Disability Retirement

<u>Current Age Group</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Annual Benefit</u>	<u>Average Annual Benefit</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Under 50	523	\$ 9,447,189	\$18,063
50 – 54	278	4,132,079	14,864
55 – 59	244	3,473,754	14,237
60 – 64	115	1,464,577	12,735
65 – 69	57	867,141	15,213
70 – 74	36	464,511	12,903
75 – 79	22	301,731	13,715
80 & Over	<u>12</u>	<u>102,341</u>	<u>8,528</u>
Total	1,287	\$ 20,253,323	\$15,737

3. Beneficiaries

<u>Current Age Group</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Annual Benefit</u>	<u>Average Annual Benefit</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Under 50	123	\$ 1,076,585	\$ 8,753
50 – 54	60	617,900	10,298
55 – 59	84	846,718	10,080
60 – 64	92	882,567	9,593
65 – 69	115	1,247,282	10,846
70 – 74	121	1,288,303	10,647
75 – 79	136	1,163,018	8,552
80 & Over	<u>204</u>	<u>1,711,534</u>	<u>8,390</u>
Total	935	\$ 8,833,907	\$ 9,448

SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

1. Interest to be Earned by Fund

7.25% per annum, compounded annually, composed of an assumed 3.00% inflation rate and a 4.25% real rate of return, net of investment and administrative expenses.

2. Salary Increases

Salary increases are assumed in accordance with the following representative rates:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Annual Increase</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Annual Increase</u>
0	11.50%	8	4.75%
1	6.75%	9	4.75%
2	5.75%	10	4.75%
3	5.50%	11	4.75%
4	5.25%	12	4.50%
5	5.00%	13	4.50%
6	4.75%	14	4.50%
7	4.75%	15+	4.50%

3. Decrement Rates

The following are representative values of the assumed annual rates of withdrawal, in-service mortality, disability and service retirement.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Annual Rate of</u>		
	<u>Service Retirement *</u>	<u>Mortality</u>	<u>Disability</u>
20		0.03%	0.12%
25		0.03%	0.14%
30		0.04%	0.18%
35		0.07%	0.35%
40		0.10%	0.46%
45	20.00%	0.14%	0.69%
50	20.00%	0.19%	0.86%
55	14.00%	0.27%	
60	15.00%	0.44%	
64	25.00%	0.63%	

*Plus an additional 22% in year when first become eligible for unreduced service retirement.

All employees are assumed to retiree at age 65.

In addition, 25% of disabilities are assumed to be duty related, and 5% of pre-retirement deaths are assumed to be accidental.

Probability of Decrement Due to Withdrawal

Age	Years of Service										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
25	0.2494	0.1816	0.1342	0.1047	0.0885	0.0780	0.0715	0.0640	0.0545	0.0524	0.0618
30	0.2478	0.1822	0.1376	0.1107	0.0959	0.0876	0.0810	0.0732	0.0633	0.0545	0.0481
35	0.2450	0.1795	0.1359	0.1104	0.0967	0.0899	0.0837	0.0763	0.0665	0.0539	0.0381
40	0.2398	0.1739	0.1304	0.1055	0.0927	0.0868	0.0814	0.0747	0.0653	0.0510	0.0305
45	0.2312	0.1649	0.1212	0.0964	0.0845	0.0783	0.0738	0.0681	0.0595	0.0458	0.0256
50	0.2193	0.1532	0.1090	0.0839	0.0730	0.0646	0.0610	0.0564	0.0490	0.0382	0.0236
55	0.2050	0.1393	0.0944	0.0684	0.0587						
60	0.1871	0.1228	0.0773	0.0503	0.0419						

Note: No probability of withdrawal is applied to members eligible to retire.

4. Mortality After Retirement

For healthy retirees and beneficiaries, the UP-94 Mortality Table rates with female rates set back one year and male rates set forward three years. A separate table of mortality rates is used for disabled retirees. The following are sample rates for the retirees and beneficiaries:

Age	Healthy		Disabled
	Male	Female	All
50	0.39%	0.14%	2.30%
55	0.68%	0.22%	2.89%
60	1.23%	0.42%	3.62%
65	2.14%	0.82%	4.07%
70	3.35%	1.37%	4.43%
75	5.40%	2.19%	5.05%
80	8.87%	3.80%	6.77%
85	13.65%	6.56%	10.09%

5. Marriage Assumption

100% of all active members are assumed to be married, with female spouses being 4 years younger.

6. Asset Valuation Method

The actuarial value of assets is equal to the market value of assets less a five-year phase in of the excess (shortfall) between expected investment return and actual net income (both based on market value) with the resulting value not being less than 80% or more than 120% of the market value of assets.

7. Cost Methods

a. Normal Retirement, Termination, Death and Disability Benefits

Projected benefit method with level percentage entry age normal cost. Gains and losses are reflected in the period remaining to liquidate the unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

b. Group Life Insurance Benefit and Accidental Death Benefits

One-year term cost method.

8. Unused Annual Leave

To account for the effect of unused annual leave on Annual Final Compensation, liabilities for active members are increased 3.75%.

9. Unused Sick Leave

To account for the effect of unused sick leave on members' final credited service, the service of active members who retire is increased 3 months.

10. Cost-of-Living Increases

None assumed.

11. Administrative and Investment Expenses

The investment return assumption represents the expected return net of all administrative and investment expenses.

12. Payroll Growth Rate

4.00% per annum.

13. Changes from Prior Valuation

Assumptions and methods as reflected in July 1, 2003 experience study.

14. Adoption Date

The current actuarial assumptions and methods were adopted by the State Budget and Control Board on April 20, 2004.

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PLAN PROVISIONS

1. Effective Date

July 1, 1962.

2. Eligibility Requirements

All police officers or firefighters who work at least 1,600 hours as a police officer or firefighter and whose compensation is at least \$2,000 during the fiscal year.

3. Creditable Service

Creditable service means service during which contributions have been made. This is counted in years, months, and days.

There are a number of different types of services that may be purchased by an employee under special rules, such as military service.

4. Average Final Compensation (AFC)

The total of the highest 12 consecutive quarters of compensation earned divided by 3. Compensation generally includes gross salary or wages, overtime, sick pay, wage deferrals, and termination pay for unused annual leave. The unused annual leave is added to the sum of the highest 12 consecutive quarters prior to dividing by 3. For members who joined the system on or after January 1, 1997, compensation for benefit and contribution purposes is limited. The 2003 limit is \$200,000, and this limit will be increased in the future as cost-of-living increases occur.

5. Normal Retirement

- a. Eligibility Attainment of age 55 and the completion of 5 years of creditable service or completion of 25 years of creditable service.
- b. Benefit 2.14% of AFC times creditable service (Class II).

6. Disability Retirement

- a. Eligibility Disability prior to normal retirement age with at least 5 years of creditable service. The service requirement is waived for job related disability.

- b. Benefit Benefit equal to the amount of retirement benefit that would have been payable assuming continued employment at age 55 and AFC at date of disability.

7. Death Benefits

a. Death prior to age 55

- i) Prior to completion of 15 years of creditable service

Refund of employee contributions with interest plus Group Life Insurance in a lump sum equal to annual compensation. Group life Insurance only payable to those with at least 1 year of creditable service, unless death is job related, and employer participates.

- ii) After completion of 15 years of creditable service

Same as above, however, instead of the refund of employee contributions with interest, the beneficiary may elect to receive an annuity equal to the amount that would have been payable had the member retired the day before death under elected payment to commence at age 55 under Option B described below.

b. Death after age 55

Same as Item a(ii) above.

8. Accidental Death Benefit

If death occurs and is duty related, then a monthly annuity equal to 50% of the member's compensation at the time of death is paid to the statutory beneficiary until the beneficiary's death.

9. Member Contribution

6.5% of compensation

10. Vested Benefit upon Termination

- a. Eligibility 100% vesting upon completion of 5 years of creditable service and refund benefit declined.
- b. Benefit Accrued service retirement benefit as of date of termination payable as of age 55.

11. Refund Benefit

- a. Eligibility All nonvested members, and at members election, vested members.
- b. Benefit Return of employee contributions plus interest.

12. Optional Forms of Retirement Income

- Option A Monthly life annuity with guaranteed return of employee contributions plus interest. (This is the normal form of payment.)
- Option B Monthly life annuity with 100% of reduced benefit continued to beneficiary upon death, reverting to maximum option if beneficiary predeceases retiree.
- Option C Monthly life annuity with 50% of reduced benefit continued to beneficiary upon death, reverting to maximum option if beneficiary predeceases retiree.

Options B and C are actuarially reduced.

13. Cost of Living Adjustment

Granted upon approval of State Budget and Control Board if funding objectives are met. The amount is the increase in the calendar year CPI not in excess of 4%.

14. Changes from Prior Valuation

None.