



# DCRB Report

FALL 2017

## Inside

- 2 Information Especially for Retirees
- 2 2017 DCRB Retired Teacher Trustee Election
- 3 Health Care Open Season
- 3 Useful Contacts
- 4 Our Member Services Center Can Help you

## From the Chairman of the Board

### New Executive Director

On behalf of the District of Columbia Retirement Board (DCRB or the Board), I am pleased to announce that at our September 28, 2017, meeting, the Board named Sheila Morgan-Johnson as the Agency's new Executive Director. Ms. Morgan-Johnson became Interim Executive Director in March 2017, when the Agency's previous Executive Director (Eric Stanchfield) left DCRB.



Joseph W. Clark

Ms. Morgan-Johnson joined DCRB in 1991 as the Agency's Chief Investment Officer, and she assumed the responsibilities of Chief Operating Officer in 2005. Before DCRB, her career has included managerial positions in several other organizations, including the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. DCRB is fortunate to have someone who is not only very knowledgeable of DCRB and its operations, but who has also dutifully served the Agency and its members for many years. For more information, please see the news release dated October 5, 2017, on DCRB's website at [www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov) (select News Room in the top navigation bar, then Press Releases).

### Investment Returns

During the twelve months ending September 30, 2017, the District of Columbia Police Officers and Fire Fighters' Retirement Fund and the District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Fund (collectively referred to as the Fund) grew by nearly \$1 billion to a total market value of \$7.8 billion. The growth is net of all benefit payments and administrative expenses.

The Fund's 13.1% (gross of fees) return was positively impacted by the continued recovery in equity and fixed income markets, particularly emerging markets equities. The Fund outperformed its passive market benchmark by 0.3% for the period. The outperformance was driven by strong returns from the Fund's non-investment grade fixed income investments, which exceeded their passive benchmark by more than 7%. In addition, the Fund's sizable emerging markets equities position and careful cash management proved beneficial.

Since its inception in October 1982, the Fund has achieved an annualized gross rate of return of 8.9%, substantially exceeding the Board's annual actuarial return target of 6.5%.

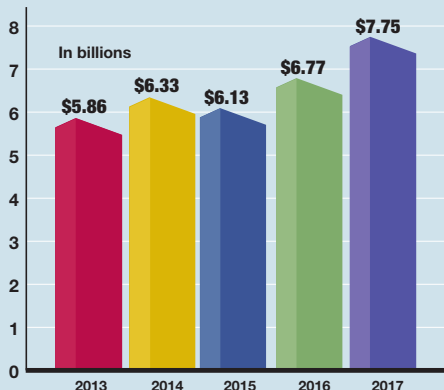
### Project Updates

We continue to work on service enhancements to benefit our members. During the past year, we provided Benefit Statements to all active Firefighters. We plan to embark on additional pilot projects on this topic toward the end of this year, and to provide active Police Officers and Teachers with Benefit Statements in late spring 2018. In addition, updated Summary Plan Descriptions are due this year. We expect to have them completed and distributed to you around the end of the year.

Finally, the Request for Proposal for the Pension Information Management System is nearing completion and should be released early next year. This process is taking

**The mission of DCRB is to prudently invest the assets of the District of Columbia Police Officers and Fire Fighters' Retirement Fund and the District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Fund for the exclusive benefit of the members of the District of Columbia Police Officers and Firefighters' Retirement Plan and the District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan and to provide Plan members with total retirement services.**

**Total Market Value of Fund at end of Fiscal Year (FY) Sept. 30**



*Continued on page 3*

## Information Especially For Retirees

### Calendar Year 2017 Tax Information

At the end of January 2018, the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Bureau of the Fiscal Service will issue 1099-R forms for the payments that retirees and survivors received from the District of Columbia Police Officers and Firefighters’ Retirement Plan and the District of Columbia Teachers’ Retirement Plan during tax year 2017. Most annuitants will receive only one 1099-R form. However, those of you who are both a retiree and the survivor of a retiree, will receive more than one 1099-R, both of which should be filed with your 2017 tax return.

### Check Your Tax Withholding Amounts

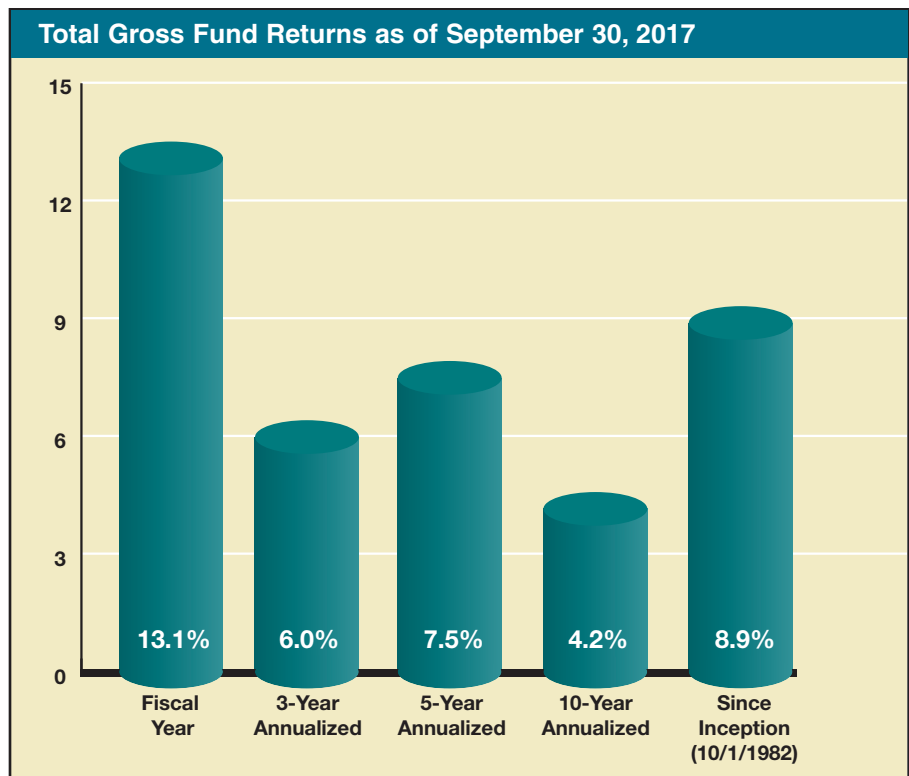
This time of year is an excellent time to check your earnings statement to assure that the amount of taxes being withheld will cover your tax obligations for the coming year. As previously noted, you have the right to change your withholding amount or to have no federal taxes withheld. Changing your withholding, however, does not affect the amount of taxes you are required to pay. Retirees who want to update their withholding amount, should complete a Form W-4P and send it to DCRB’s Member Services Center (MSC) at the address listed on page 4. Blank forms can be requested from the MSC, or you can print one from the DCRB website at [www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov) (under Member Forms) or the IRS website at [www.IRS.gov](http://www.IRS.gov). Active members who wish to make withholding changes need to file a Form W-4 with their payroll office.

### Change of Address or Change of Direct Deposit Account

To assure that you receive your

benefit payments and tax information promptly, if you plan to move or you have already done so, you should contact the DCRB MSC with your new address (and bank change information, if applicable) as soon as possible. You can reach the MSC by calling (202) 343-3272 or toll free at 1-866-456-3272, if you live

out of the Washington Metropolitan area. You can also retrieve forms for making address or direct deposit changes by accessing DCRB’s website at [www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov) and printing out the form(s) you need. The completed form(s) should be mailed to the MSC at the address listed on the back of this newsletter.



## 2017 DCRB Retired Teacher Trustee Election

DCRB has commenced its Retired Teacher Trustee Election. The process began on September 7th with the mailing of Nomination of Candidate forms. On November 2nd, ballots were distributed to all retired teachers who are eligible to vote in the election. Eligible retired teachers may cast their ballot either via mail or electronically via telephone. **The deadline for the submission of ballots (either in paper or via telephone) is Wednesday, November 29th.** If you did not receive a ballot or you have any questions about the election, you should contact the Election Official, the American Arbitration Association, at its toll-free number at (800) 273-0726 or at (215) 731-2280.

The Board will certify the election results at its December 14th meeting, and the results will be published in the DC Register on December 22nd. The winning candidate will begin his/her term as a Board Trustee on January 28, 2018. The term ends on January 27, 2022.

## Health Care Open Season

**T**he District of Columbia Office of Human Resources and the Federal Government’s Office of Personnel Management (OPM) have announced that their respective health care open enrollment periods will take place between Monday, November 13 and Monday, December 11, 2017. This is your annual opportunity to review your current plan elections and make any changes.

Open Enrollment informational packets, which were mailed to eligible members during the week of November 13, contain details about the health plans, premium amounts, and how to change plans. For more information and updates on District and federal health care plans, open enrollment fairs, and open season enrollment, please visit our website homepage at [www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov), and review the “Health Benefits Open Season” announcement at the top of the homepage. There you will find information about how to enroll in the plans, changes to the plans

offered, and the required premiums.

As in past years, the OPM website has a feature that allows eligible Federal Employees’ Health Benefits (FEHB) participants to enter their Zip Code, and health plans that have facilities close to where they live will be identified. A feature is available that allows participants to select plans of interest, and then a comparison chart displaying the plans’ provisions, costs, and premiums is shown. The OPM website, [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov), (under “Insurance,” then “Compare Plans”) also lists the premiums for 2018.

Police/Firefighter Plan and Teachers’ Plan retired members who have coverage through District or federal programs may submit their materials to DCRB in a variety of ways.

**You may:**

- email us at [DCRB.benefits@dc.gov](mailto:DCRB.benefits@dc.gov)



- fax us at (202) 566-5001, or
- mail your completed change forms to the DCRB Member Services Center at the address on the back page.

Please note: all submitted materials must be dated or postmarked no later than the close of business (5:00 pm ET) on December 11, 2017.

Active District employees should submit any changes online via the PeopleSoft Employee Self-Service portal, and should contact their Human Resources office with any questions.

**From the Chair** *continued from page 1*

more time than we had initially expected, but given the importance of this project, we want to make sure that we have included everything that needs to be addressed. We will continue to keep you up-to-date on that project as we move forward.

**Awards**

We are pleased to advise you that DCRB has been presented with the Public Pension Coordinating Council’s Recognition Award for Funding for 2017. The award is for meeting professional standards for plan funding as set forth in the Public Pension Standards. The Council is a confederation of the National Association

of State Retirement Administrators, the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems, and the National Council on Teacher Retirement. DCRB has received this award over the past eight consecutive years. In addition, DCRB once again received the Government Finance Officers Association’s Certificate of Achievement Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 2016. We have received this award for nine consecutive years. These awards reflect DCRB’s adhering to required professional standards and maintaining the best practices expected of public retirement systems.

**Useful Contacts**



Metropolitan Police Department  
Human Resources Office  
**(202) 727-4261**

---

Department of Fire and Emergency  
Medical Services Human  
Resources Office **(202) 673-7580**

---

Police and Fire Retirement and  
Relief Board **(202) 442-9622**

---

D.C. Public Schools Employee  
Services Division **(202) 442-4090**  
[dcps.hranswers@dc.gov](mailto:dcps.hranswers@dc.gov)

---

Office of Personnel Management  
**(202) 606-1800**  
**Toll Free (724) 794-2005\***  
<https://www.opm.gov>

---

Social Security Administration  
**(800) 772-1213**  
<https://www.ssa.gov>

---

\*for health and life insurance issues

## DC Retirement Board

900 7th Street, NW  
Second Floor  
Washington, DC 20001



Pre-Sorted  
Standard  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #349  
Washington, DC

### Inside this DCRB Report

**District and Federal Health Care  
Open Season Enrollment, Year End  
Information, Trustee Election, and  
more**

## Our Member Services Center Can Help You

- **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):** New annuitants must use EFT to receive annuity payments. For an enrollment form for Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization, please visit the DCRB website at [www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov). You may also contact the Member Services Center to request an enrollment form or ask any questions you may have.
- **Beneficiary Updates:** It is important to keep your Plan beneficiary information current, especially if you have divorced. To update your beneficiary information related to your pension benefits, you can print out forms from the DCRB website (address indicated above) or you may contact the Member Services Center.
- **Life Event Changes:** Changes in your status may have an effect on your pension benefits or those of your family members. If you get married, divorced, become widowed, or if you have a change in your child student status, you should report such events to DCRB. Information on our website can also answer many of your questions. Visit us at [www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov) and click on the "Retirement" tab to view and print useful forms, view the Summary Plan Descriptions (SPDs), and read helpful brochures regarding special topics. Also, for your information and convenience, there is a retirement calculator and a glossary of benefits terms.

If you are an active member, please call your Human Resources office to inquire about services, such as: **changing your beneficiary information, changing or correcting payroll information, and updating your address.**

### DCRB Member Services Center

900 7th Street, NW, Second Floor, Washington, DC 20001 • (202) 343-3272  
Toll free: (866) 456-3272 • TTY (800) 877-8339 • Fax: (202) 566-5001 • Email: [dcrb.benefits@dc.gov](mailto:dcrb.benefits@dc.gov)

## TRUSTEES

Janice M. Adams  
*Mayoral Appointee*  
Lyle M. Blanchard  
*Treasurer  
Council Appointee*  
Joseph M. Bress  
*Council Appointee*  
Joseph W. Clark  
*Chair  
Mayoral Appointee*

Mary A. Collins  
*Elected Retired  
Teacher*  
Gary W. Hankins  
*Vice Chair/Secretary  
Elected Retired  
Police Officer*  
Darrick O. Ross  
*Elected Active  
Police Officer*

Nathan A. Saunders  
*Elected Active  
Teacher*  
Edward C. Smith  
*Elected Active  
Firefighter*  
Thomas N. Tippet  
*Elected Retired  
Firefighter*

Michael J. Warren  
*Council Appointee*  
Lenda P. Washington  
*Mayoral Appointee*  
Jeffrey Barnette  
*Ex Officio,  
Non-Voting*

## DC Retirement Board

900 7th Street, NW, 2nd Floor  
Washington, DC 20001  
Voice (202) 343-3200  
Fax (202) 566-5000  
[www.dcrb.dc.gov](http://www.dcrb.dc.gov)  
Sheila Morgan-Johnson  
*Executive Director*  
Joan M. Passerino  
*Editor*