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TO: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: EDWARD SMITH, CHAIRMAN

DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2015

SUBJECT: BENEFITS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Benefits Committee did not meet during the month of November. The following report reflects Benefits Department activities and projects that occurred since the November report.

Health Benefits Open Enrollment

Open enrollment for both the Federal Employees' Health Benefit Program (FEHB) and the District Employees' Health Program (DCEHB) closed December 14, 2015. Over 1,200 Open Enrollment changes were received as a result of the new enrollment type, Self Plus One. The Member Service Call Center can attribute the major increase in calls due to the health benefits open enrollment season.

Equalization Increases

In accordance with D.C. Code § 5-745, Tier 1 Police/Fire Plan members who retired prior to February 15, 1980 are eligible for equalization pay in the same increase percentage as if they were still an active-duty police officer or firefighter. Since active union and nonunion police officers and active nonunion firefighters received FY 2016 pay increases effective October 4, 2015, union and nonunion Tier 1 Police Plan members and nonunion Tier 1 Fire Plan members who retired prior to February 15, 1980 received equalization increases effective November 1, 2015 and paid December 1, 2015.

Because active-duty union firefighters are still in the process of negotiating a bargaining agreement, retired union firefighters will not receive an equalization increase (if any) until the provisions of the bargaining agreement are known.

Max 80/Lookback COLA Errors Update (As of November 30, 2015)

Of the 558 annuitants impacted by U.S. Treasury's Office of D.C. Pensions ("ODCP") benefits correction project, 454 had benefit overpayments due to the Max 80/Lookback Cola errors. As previously reported, ODCP waived collection of these benefit overpayments under the Federal debt collection rules. However, this group was informed in their initial notification letters (January 2015) that ODCP would report waived overpayments in excess of \$600 as cancelled debts to the Internal Revenue Service on Form 1099-C (Cancellation of Debt). ODCP's letter explained that the reported cancelled debt may be deductible under Internal Revenue Code Section 108 on their Form 1040 and further encouraged members to consult with a professional tax advisor about how to deduct the reported cancelled debt since they may have already been taxed

on the cancelled debt when they initially received the benefit overpayment. These annuitants should not be taxed again because of the 1099-C reporting.

DCRB staff has asked ODCP's legal counsel to provide more information explaining the reporting and deducting of the cancelled debt by impacted annuitants. In the interim, ODCP has informed DCRB that more than 400 Form 1099-Cs will be issued in January 2016 for calendar year 2015.

Benefits Department Monthly Statistics

Processing volume by month:

Activity	November	October	September
Retirement Claims Received	277	224	238
Processed Retirements	138	124	169
Telephone Calls	2639	2098	1827
Walk-in Customers	184	117	117
Scanned Documents	12,816 pages	15,739	10,419 pages
QDROs Approved	1 draft	4 final, 1 draft	5 final, 1 draft
Purchase of Service	6 (\$7,376)	1 (\$3,659)	2 (\$6,390.15)

You will find more details of the Benefits Department statistics in the attached reports.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RETIREMENT BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INTEREST

**CERTIFICATION OF WINNER OF THE ELECTION TO SERVE AS
THE RETIRED FIREFIGHTER MEMBER OF THE BOARD**

The District of Columbia Retirement Board (the "Board") is required to conduct elections for its retired member representatives to the Board. *See* D.C. Official Code § 1-711(b)(2) (2001). In accordance with the Board's Rules for the Election of Members to the Board ("Election Rules"), the Board, through the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), conducted an election for the representative of the retired District of Columbia firefighters.

The ballots were counted on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at 900 7th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor, Washington, D.C., in the presence of Board representatives, and under the supervision of AAA.

AAA submitted the Certification of Results to the Board on November 19, 2015. Pursuant to section 408.1 of the Election Rules, the Board hereby certifies the results of the elections and declares the winner to be Thomas Tippett, a retired District of Columbia firefighter.

Pursuant to section 408.4 of the Election Rules, any eligible candidate for this election may petition the Board in writing for a recount of votes within seven (7) calendar days of the date of publication of the certification of the winner. The petition must be filed at the Board's executive office located at 900 7th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001. In the absence of a request for a recount, the election results will become final and cannot be appealed thirty (30) days after this publication of the Board's certification.

The Election Rules and the Certification of Results can be accessed on the Board's website:

<http://www.dcrb.dc.gov>

Please address any questions regarding this notice to:

Eric O. Stanchfield, Executive Director
D.C. Retirement Board
900 7th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RETIREMENT BOARD

ANNUAL OPEN PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

As of December 17, 2015

The District of Columbia Retirement Board (DCRB) holds Open Board of Trustee meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m., unless specified differently. The meetings will be held in the DCRB Board Room (2nd floor) at 900 7th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C 20001. The meeting place and time are subject to change without prior notice.

Please call one (1) business day prior to the meeting to ensure the meeting has not been cancelled or rescheduled. For additional information, please contact Deborah Reaves, Executive Assistant at (202) 343-3200 or Deborah.Reaves@dc.gov.

2016 Annual Open Board Meeting Schedule

January 21, 2016

February 18, 2016

March 17, 2016

April 21, 2016

May 19, 2016

June 16, 2016

July 21, 2016

August – No Meeting

September 15, 2016

October 20, 2016

November 17, 2016

December 15, 2016