



GENERAL
RETIREMENT
SYSTEM

ACTIVE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Produced for active members of The General Retirement System for Employees of Jefferson County Fall 2021

Are Your Beneficiary Designations Current?

When was the last time you checked your beneficiary designations? You may designate a beneficiary(s) and contingent beneficiary(s) for your retirement benefit. If you name more than one beneficiary and one contingent beneficiary, you will need to indicate the specific percentage to be paid to each. A contingent beneficiary will receive your death benefit only if all the beneficiaries die before you. You can change your beneficiary designations at any time before retirement. We will be happy to provide you a copy of your current beneficiary form on file with GRS or you can check your beneficiaries on MemberDirect. Marriage, divorce, birth of a child, or death of a loved one are common reasons why you may need to revise your beneficiary form. Members wishing to change, add, or delete beneficiaries must complete a new Beneficiary Designations Prior To Retirement form which is available on our website, www.grsal.net, in our office, or we will be happy to mail or email a new form to you. Please note that the form must be witnessed by an unrelated person. Also, if you are vested and married, your spouse is the automatic beneficiary. You will need to complete a form and have your spouse's consent to name someone other than your spouse as the beneficiary. At the time of your retirement, you will be given the opportunity to designate a beneficiary for your pension benefit.

Please contact the GRS office at (205) 784-4530 if you have any questions regarding your selection of a beneficiary.

Almost Time to Retire?

If you are getting ready to retire, please contact our office to schedule a retirement appointment about 30 days before you plan to retire from Jefferson County. You can find a list of documents you will need at your retirement appointment in your Member Handbook or on our website, www.grsal.net.

You will also need to contact Human Resources at (205) 325-5249 to make an appointment to discuss your health, dental, and vision insurance options.

MemberDirect

MemberDirect is a self-service website that is available to all members where individual retirement account information can be accessed securely online. Active members are able to view service, contribution, and beneficiary information as well as benefit statements. Active members are also able to perform benefit estimates and obtain selected forms. If you have not enrolled in MemberDirect please contact our office at (205) 784-4530 and we will get you started.

Contacting GRS

We are available by appointment only. You can make an appointment by calling us at (205) 784-4530 or emailing grs@grsal.net Please visit us on the web at www.grsal.net.



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Have You Visited Our Website Recently?

GRS's website located at www.grsal.net offers simple site navigation, organized content, and pertinent information regarding your pension.

Here's what you can find with a few clicks:

- ◆ Access to MemberDirect
- ◆ Member Handbook
- ◆ Beneficiary Form
- ◆ Retirement Checklist
- ◆ Current and Past Newsletters
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions
- ◆ GRS Audit and Actuarial Reports

We are trying to locate the following members. If you know one of the individuals below, please ask them to contact our office.

Robert E. Carroll

Paige A. Johnson

Veronica L. Merritt

Myranda Richardson

Ashley Denecia Thomas

Marlee Elena Bell

Adam Thomas Ennis

Markell Jones

Joshua Caleb Adams

William David McKoy

Milton Levon Burton

Fredrick Carson

Ivory Price

Tammie Green

Mary Ward

Haresh Modi

Larry Earl Guthrie

Stephen Fox McGhee

Scotty Ray Sanford

Jemica Lashun Rowe

Salena Janine Bradford

Kevin Blaylock

Andrina Denea Lando

Christopher Finley

Gabriel Posey

Xavier Purdue

Alan Louis Gandy

Jernesia Melton

Miranda Pilato

Lenora Davis

Cynthia Chandler

Rodney Franklin, Jr.

QUESTIONS ABOUT RETIREMENT?

When am I eligible to retire? How do I apply for retirement benefits? What are my retirement options? These and any other questions you may have regarding retirement can be answered by the GRS staff. We are the best source for information regarding your pension. Please contact a GRS Member Advisor at (205) 784-4530 to answer any of your retirement questions.

Pension Board

Robert Field, Chairman

Robert Nolen, Member 2

Connie Harris, Member 3

Billy Morace, Member 4

Travis Hulseley, Member 5