



ACTIVE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Produced for active members of The General Retirement System for Employees of Jefferson County Spring 2017

Your Personal Statement of Estimated Retirement Benefits

Your Annual Personal Statement of Estimated Retirement Benefits will be distributed to you through your payroll coordinator in mid-April. The statement provides a summary of your retirement account and projections of future benefits available to you when you become eligible. Answers to frequently asked questions about the statement are provided here.

Q: Why is my date of pension membership later than my employment date?

A: Most employees' date of pension membership is their date of hire. A later date may appear if you are an unclassified, appointed, or elected employee that elected membership after your first paycheck had been processed.

Q: Why isn't a deferred retirement benefit listed?

A: Employees that have not yet vested (120 months of creditable service) are not eligible to receive a deferred retirement benefit. Once the member is vested the estimated deferred retirement benefit will be provided.

Q: Why are the amounts under Estimated Retirement Benefits different?

A: 1. is the date you first qualify for a superannuation retirement (normal retirement) and your estimated benefit at that time. 2. is the date you qualify for your maximum benefit (30 years of paid service) and your estimated benefits at that time.

Q: Is the projected monthly benefit the actual amount I will receive at retirement?

A: No, your actual retirement benefit will be calculated once you separate employment and will be based on your highest 36 months of earnings, number of months of vested service, and applicable laws in effect at that time.

Q: Will I receive these benefits if I'm not vested and terminate employment from Jefferson County?

A: No, the estimated retirement benefits presented assumes you will be continually employed in a paid status with Jefferson County. If you leave Jefferson County or have non-paid days (Absent without leave, unpaid FMLA, etc.) the date you qualify for retirement and amount you may be entitled to receive may be affected.

Q: What if something on the statement doesn't seem correct?

A: If something on the statement doesn't seem correct, please note the discrepancy and indicate how you arrived at your conclusion. Address your correspondence to: General Retirement System, 716 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. N, Suite 430 Courthouse, Birmingham, Alabama 35203 or you may send it through interoffice mail.

Q: What if I have other questions about the Personal Statement of Estimated Retirement Benefits?

A: The GRS staff will be happy to answer any questions regarding the statement. Please contact GRS at (205) 325-5354 or stop by our office.

Keep Your Beneficiary Designation Up To Date

Have you experienced a marriage, divorce, death of a loved one or addition of a new family member? If so, you may wish to update your beneficiary designation.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Members will be held Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 11:00 am, Room 270, Jefferson County Commission Chambers in the Downtown Courthouse.



GENERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

IN MEMORIAM

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF

Emma W. Williams—December 9

William M. Whetstone—December 20

Charles Smith—January 1

Margaret K. Landmon—January 1

Ernestine Shannon—January 3

Donald L. Boyd—January 3

Zera F. Greenlee—January 10

Raymond V. Franklin—January 11

Willie C. Green—January 12

Patrick A. Chambers—January 18

Laura Sturdivant—February 1

Calvin Smith—February 10

William M. Bridges—February 10

Shirley J. Ware—February 14

Harold R. Newfield—February 21

Clyde Harper—February 27

Contacting GRS

We are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Our number is (205) 325-5354. You can also email us at questions@grsal.net or visit us on the web at www.grsal.net.

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 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 325-5249 to make an appointment to discuss your health, dental, and vision insurance options.

Pension Board

Frank Jones, Chairman

Betty Lavier, Member 2

Connie Harris, Member 3

Billy Morace, Member 4

Travis Hulsey, Member 5

CONGRATULATIONS NEW RETIREES!

DECEMBER

Nell R. Clay

Eugenia Allen

Ralph Bryant, Jr.

Kathy Ann Womack

Karon D. Witt

Glenda Faye Cash

Cynthia Bunton-Frazier

Frank Elkins, Jr.

Paul A. Allen

JANUARY

Iva Jewell Farr

Karin Davis

Rickie G. Hogeland

Gwendolyn Bryant-Haywood

Frederick H. Cooper III

Harry T. Chandler

Alvin Donald Powell

Steven D. Meuse

Marlin D. Allen

FEBRUARY

Dennis J. Hall

Robin Waiters

Angela Coleman

William H. Mullins III

James Davis Hawk Jr.

Charles R. Cleckler