August 14, 2020

TO:       Certifying Officers of the Police and Firemen’s Retirement System (PFRS)
FROM:    Lisa Pointer, Board Secretary
          Police and Firemen’s Retirement System of New Jersey (PFRSNJ)
SUBJECT:  2020 PFRS Notice of Election

This certifying officer letter and the attached notice for the 2020 “Police” election for the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees, established by P.L. 2018 c. 55 (Chapter 55), are being transmitted to you electronically and will require your electronic response.

We ask for your assistance in servicing an election for one “Police” representative position on the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees. An active Police representative will be elected for a four-year term as of February 1, 2021. Candidates for the position must qualify by electronic nomination.

We are requesting that you distribute the attached Notice of PFRSNJ Election electronically to each PFRS active police member employed at your location, as the information will explain the pre-election procedures. Please note that the officer must be enrolled, and active as of June 30, 2020. It is very important that every active PFRS police member receives this notice. If you are the certifying officer for multiple locations, you will only receive one certifying officer letter and will be required to distribute the attached election notice to active PFRS police members at all locations. Your attention to this distribution is required under N.J.A.C. 17:4-1.4. Further, it will be your responsibility to distribute each member’s ballot to the member in accordance with N.J.S.A. 43:16A-32, N.J.S.A. 43:16A-68, and N.J.A.C. 17:4-1.4.

We ask that you distribute this notice electronically no later than August 21, 2020. In addition, if you maintain a website for your employees, you may post the notice there and in any other appropriate public place at your location.

It is very important that you confirm distribution of this notice. To confirm distribution of the notice to your active PFRS police employees, please send an email to PFRSNJBOT.ELECT@treas.nj.gov

Thank you for your prompt assistance in the timely response and distribution of this notice.

Attachment: Election Notice
Notice of PFRSNJ Police Election

P.O. BOX 297 - Trenton, NJ 08625-0297 or PFRSNJBOT.Nomination@treas.nj.gov

Nominations are being accepted to fill the position of one elected “Police” representative on the PFRSNJ Board of Trustees, established by P. L. 2018, c. 55 (Chapter 55). The term will begin on February 1, 2021, and will expire on January 31, 2025. Candidates for the position must qualify by electronic nomination. If you wish to declare your interest in running for this position, please send a written request no later than September 11, 2020 to the PFRSNJ Board Secretary at PFRSNJBOT.Nomination@treas.nj.gov or P.O. Box 297, Trenton, NJ 08625-0297.

The PFRSNJ Board of Trustees has the general responsibility for the operation of the PFRS under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:16A-13. The Board meets monthly. The statute provides that no employee shall suffer loss of salary or wages because of serving on the Board. A member who wishes to be a candidate for the police position must be an active PFRS police member and must receive at least 500 active PFRS police member nominations. Only active PFRS police members may nominate a candidate for the PFRSNJ police position. The voting member must be an active PFRS enrollee as of June 30, 2020.

After the candidates have declared their interest in becoming a PFRSNJ representative, nominations to support your choice for a candidate are made electronically through a secure website. The process is easy and only takes a few minutes. You just need to have access to a computer. Log on to https://vote.election-america.com/PFRSNJ and follow the simple directions. You will need to provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number, the first 4 letters of your last name, and your birthdate. You will see a list of all the candidates, and then you can make your selection. Please be sure to allow sufficient time for active police members to request candidacy and for the vendor to enter the candidate’s name to the online system. For further information on the nomination and election process, please visit the NJ Division of Pensions and Benefits’ website at www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions

Nominations must be registered online or before October 2, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. If more than one candidate receives 500 or more nominations, an election will be required. Qualified candidates will be invited to attend the drawing by lot for position on the ballot, if necessary, on October 19, 2020. Election ballots will be mailed to PFRS employers for distribution to active members on or about November 23, 2020. Each member must cast their own ballot.

PFRSNJ BOARD COMPOSITION

Three (3) active Police Representatives: One (1) elected by the active members of the system, one (1) appointed by the president of the New Jersey State Policemen’s Benevolent Association, and one (1) appointed by the President of the New Jersey State Fraternal Order of Police. Three (3) active Fire Representatives: One (1) elected by the active members of the system, one (1) appointed by the president of the New Jersey State Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association, and one (1) appointed by the President of the Professional Firefighter’s Association of New Jersey. One (1) retiree elected from the retirees of the system. Five (5) Trustees appointed by the Governor.

PFRSNJ BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- Render determinations regarding Disability Retirement cases.
- Review appeals pertaining to the disallowance of pension benefits.
- Adopt rules and regulations to provide for the payment of benefits and collection of monies as required by the statute.
- Establish rules and regulations within the limitations of statutes and opinions of the Courts designed to prevent injustices and inequities that may arise in the operation of the Retirement System.
- Resolve individual questions on the merits of each case in terms of statutes, advice of the Actuary and cases cited by counsel as deliberated by the Courts.
- View monthly and annual reports setting forth data such as assets and liabilities, income and disbursements and statistical summarization of membership as documented by the Actuary.
- The PFRSNJ Board is responsible for the funding policies of the Board and directing the investments of the funds.