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The Prison Officers' Pension Fund of New Jersey

Information Required Under Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 67 as of June 30, 2017

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CONDUENT
500 Plaza Drive
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January 19, 2018

Director of the Division of Pension and Benefits
Division of Pension and Benefits
50 West State Street
One State Street Square
CN 295
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0295

Director:

This valuation provides information concerning the Prison Officers' Pension Fund of New Jersey in accordance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 67, effective for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

We certify that the information contained in this Actuarial Report has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices. To the best of our knowledge, the information fairly presents the actuarial position of the Prison Officers' Pension Fund of New Jersey in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 67 as of June 30, 2017.

The Division of Pensions and Benefits may use this report for the review of the operation of the plan and as a source of information for the State financial statements. The report may also be used in the preparation of the plan's audited financial statements.

Use of this report for any other purpose or by anyone other than the staff of the Division of Pensions and Benefits may not be appropriate and may result in mistaken conclusions because of failure to understand applicable assumptions, methods, or inapplicability of the report for that purpose. You should ask Conduent to review any statement you wish to make on the results contained in this report. Conduent will accept no liability for any such statement made without prior review by Conduent.

Future actuarial measurements may differ significantly from current measurements due to plan experience differing from that anticipated by the economic and demographic assumptions, increases or decreases expected as part of the natural operation of the methodology used for these measurements, and changes in plan provisions or applicable law. An analysis of the potential range of such future differences is beyond the scope of this valuation.

In preparing the actuarial results, we have relied upon information provided by the Division of Pensions and Benefits regarding plan provisions, plan participants, plan assets, contribution rates and other matters used in the actuarial valuation. Although we did not audit the data, we reviewed the data for reasonableness and consistency with the prior year's information. The accuracy of the results presented herein is dependent on the accuracy of the data.

In my opinion, the actuarial assumptions used are appropriate for purposes of the valuation and are reasonably related to the experience of the System and to reasonable long-term expectations. The mortality improvement assumption was selected in accordance with Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 35.

This report was prepared under my supervision. I am a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries. I meet the Academy's qualification Standards to issue this Statement of Actuarial Opinion. This report has been prepared in accordance with all applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice. I am available to answer questions and supply any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Shapiro

Aaron Shapiro, FSA, EA, MAAA
Principal, Consulting Actuary
Conduent HR Consulting, LLC

Table of Contents

Section I – GASB 67 Information

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2017

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Method used to value investments: Investments are reported at fair value.

Actuarial cost method: Entry Age Normal – Level Percentage of Pay

Plan Description

Plan administration. The State of New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits administers the Prison Officers' Pension Fund of New Jersey (Plan), a single-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides pensions for Employees of State penal institutions employed prior to January 1, 1960 who did not transfer to the Police & Firemen's Retirement System in accordance with Chapter 205 of Public Law 1989. The Plan was closed to new employees as of January 1960.

Management of the Plan is vested in the Division of Pensions and Benefits in the Department of the Treasury (Division).

Plan membership. Plan membership consists of the following:

	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016
Inactive members or beneficiaries currently receiving	98	90
Inactive members entitled to but not yet receiving	0	0
Active members	0	0
	98	90

Benefits provided. Please see Section III of the report for a summary of Plan provisions.

Contributions. The Division establishes contributions based on an actuarially determined contribution recommended by an independent actuary. Since the Plan is closed to new employees, the actuarially determined contribution is an amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. The unfunded accrued liability (the difference between the present value of benefits and the valuation assets) was determined as of July 1, 1988 and was amortized over the 14-year period beginning July 1, 1989, and ending on July 1, 2002. Each year the amortization payments were adjusted to reflect any experience gains or losses that occurred during the previous plan year. All gains and losses were amortized over the remaining original amortization period. (Without any guidance, the actuary assumed that any unfunded accrued liability that develops after the July 1, 2001 valuation will be amortized over 1 year.) For the year ended June 30, 2017, the State contributed $0 to the plan.

Cost-of-living increases are granted to retired members and their eligible survivors in accordance with the Pension Adjustment Act. The additional liability due to the pension adjustment is paid by the Pension Adjustment Fund, which was established pursuant to Chapter 143, P.L. 1958. Chapter 78, P.L. 2011 suspended the cost-of-living adjustments for current and future retirees and beneficiaries until reactivated as permitted by law.

Investments

Rate of return. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested. The estimated annual money-weighted rate of return on Plan investments, net of Plan investment expense is as follows:

June 30, 2016	June 30, 2017
0.28%	0.53%

We did not receive detailed information from the Plan's investment manager to be able to calculate the precise annual money-weighted rate of return on assets. This information should be obtained from the Plan's investment manager.

Receivables

N/A.

Net Pension Liability

The components of the net pension liability were as follows:

		June 30, 2016		June 30, 2017
Total pension liability	$	7,505,870	$	6,477,263
Plan fiduciary net position		(6,111,233)		(5,620,868)
State's net pension liability	$	1,394,637	$	856,395
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability		81.42%		86.78%

Actuarial assumptions

The actuarial cost method used to develop the total pension liability is the Entry Age Normal Cost - Level Percent of Pay method, as required by GASB Statement No. 67.

The total pension liability as of fiscal year ending June 30 was determined by rolling forward the Plan's total pension liability as of fiscal year beginning July 1 of the previous calendar year to the end fiscal year using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement. All other methods and assumptions used to determine the total pension liability are set forth in Section II.

The discount rate is the single rate that reflects (1) the long-term expected rate of return on Plan investments that are expected to be used to finance the payment of benefits, to the extent that the Plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to make projected benefit payments and Plan assets are expected to be invested using a strategy to achieve that return, and (2) a yield or index rate for 20-year, tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher (or equivalent quality on another scale), to the extent that the conditions for use of the long-term expected rate of return are not met. For the purpose of its report, the State uses the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index.

Discount rate. The discount rates used to measure the total pension liability were 2.85% as of June 30, 2016 and 3.58% as of June 30, 2017. Since the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the State prescribed the use of an expected long-term rate of return based on the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index in lieu of the 5.00% rate used for funding. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability in accordance with the method prescribed by GASB Statement No. 67. We believe this assumption is reasonable for the purposes of the measurements required by the Statement.

Schedules of Required Supplementary Information

Sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the net pension liability, calculated using the discount rate of 3.58%, as well as what the State's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.58%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.58%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (2.58%)	**Current Discount Rate (3.58%)**	**1% Increase (4.58%)**
Net Pension Liability	$ 1,190,286	$ 856,395	$ 555,217

Schedule of Changes in the State's Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios

	Increase (Decrease)		
Changes in Net Pension Liability	**Total Pension Liability (a)**	**Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)**	**Net Pension Liability (a) - (b)**
Balances as of June 30, 2016	$ 7,505,870	$ 6,111,233	$ 1,394,637
Changes for the year:			
Service cost	0		0
Interest on total pension liability	198,788		198,788
Effect of plan changes	0		0
Effect of economic/demographic (gains) or losses	82,047		82,047
Effect of assumptions changes or inputs	(240,233)		(240,233)
Benefit payments	(1,069,209)	(1,069,209)	0
Administrative expenses		(4,134)	4,134
Member contributions		0	0
Net investment income		30,847	(30,847)
Employer contributions		552,131	(552,131)
Balances as of June 30, 2017	$ 6,477,263	$ 5,620,868	$ 856,395

Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	86.78%
Covered-employee payroll as of the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation	N/A
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	N/A

Notes to Schedule:

Benefit changes. None.

Changes of assumptions. The discount rate changed from 2.85% as of June 30, 2016 to 3.58% as of June 30, 2017. The discount rates as of June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017 were prescribed by the State.

Schedule of State Contributions

	2016	2017
Actuarially determined contribution	$ 0	$ 0
Contributions related to the actuarially determined contribution[1]	0	0
Contribution deficiency (excess)	$ 0	$ 0

1. Excludes $634,217 and $552,131 paid from the Pension Adjustment Fund for cost-of-living adjustment amounts paid during the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017, respectively.

Notes to Schedule

Valuation date: Actuarially determined contributions are calculated as of the July 1 preceding the fiscal year in which contributions are made. That is, the contribution calculated as of July 1, 2016 will be made during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

The methods and assumptions used to determine the actuarially determined contributions to the plan are set forth in Section II.

Schedule of Investment Returns

	2016	2017
Estimated annual money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expenses	0.28%	0.53%

We did not receive detailed information from the Plan's investment manager to be able to calculate the precise annual money-weighted rate of return on assets. This information should be obtained from the Plan's investment manager.

Section II – Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

A. Actuarial Assumptions

Investment Rate of Return	3.58% per annum, compounded annually.
Salary Increases	Not applicable
Mortality	RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Tables projected on a generational basis from the base year of 2000 to 2014 using Projection Scale BB as the base tales and the tables will be further projected beyond the valuation date using the Buck Modified 2014 projection scale. RP-2000 disabled retiree mortality table is used for the period after disability retirement for disability retirements.
Withdrawal	Not applicable
Disability	Not applicable
Loading for expenses	None
Retirement Age	Not applicable
Asset valuation method	Market value.
Form of payment	Life annuity for termination and retirement; lump sum for death. To the extent optional forms of payment are elected and conversions are determined under an actuarial basis which differs from the basis used in the valuation, gains or losses will occur. These gains or losses will be recognized through the routine application of the actuarial cost method.
Married participants	It is assumed that 100% of all participants in the plan are married. Males are assumed to be 3 years older than their spouses.

B. Actuarial Cost Method

The actuarial cost method for funding calculations is the Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Cost Method.

The actuarial accrued liability is calculated as the actuarial present value of the projected benefits allocated to periods prior to the valuation year. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is the actuarial accrued liability on the valuation date less the actuarial value of assets.

The unfunded accrued liability (the difference between the present value of benefits and the valuation assets) was determined as of July 1, 1988 and was amortized over the 14-year period beginning July 1, 1989, and ending on July 1, 2002. Each year the amortization payments were adjusted to reflect any experience gains or losses that occurred during the previous plan year. All gains and losses were amortized over the remaining original amortization period. (Without any guidance, the actuary assumed that any unfunded accrued liability that develops after the July 1, 2001 valuation will be amortized over 1 year.)

Cost-of-living increases are granted to retired members and their eligible survivors in accordance with the Pension Adjustment Act. The additional liability due to the pension adjustment is paid by the Pension Adjustment Fund, which was established pursuant to Chapter 143, P.L. 1958. Chapter 78, P.L. 2011 suspended the cost of living adjustments for current and future retirees and beneficiaries until reactivated as permitted by law.

Section III – Summary of Plan Provisions

New Jersey Statutes, Title 43, Chapter 7

Eligibility for Membership

Employees of State penal institutions, employed prior to January 1, 1960 who did not transfer to the Police & Firemen's Retirement System in accordance with Chapter 205 of Public Law 1989. The System no longer accepts new members.

1. Definitions

Plan Year	The 12-month period beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30.
Service	A year is credited for each year an employee is a member of the retirement system.
Average Final Compensation (AFC)	Average annual compensation (or base salary) for 3 years of Service immediately preceding retirement. (Effective June 30, 1996, Chapter 113, P.L. 1997 provided that the amount of compensation used for employer and member contributions and benefits under the program cannot exceed the compensation limitation of Section 401(a)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code.)
Accumulated Deductions	The sum (without interest) of all required amounts deducted from the compensation of a member or contributed by him or on his behalf.

2. Benefits

Service Retirements

25 years of service, or age 55 and 20 years of service. The benefit is a life annuity equal to the greater of (A), (B), and (C) below:

(A) 2% of AFC up to 30 years of service plus 1% for each year in excess of 30 and prior to age 65;

(B) 50% of final pay; and

(C) For a member with 25 years of service, 2% of AFC up to 30 years of service plus 1% for each year in excess of 30.

Vested Retirements

Eligible upon termination of employment. Benefits are summarized as follows:

Termination with 10 or more years of service: Benefit is a deferred life annuity equal to 2% of AFC for service up to 30 years plus 1% for service over 30 years.

Termination with less than 10 years of service: Refund of accumulated deductions.

	Ordinary Disability Retirement	Permanent and total disability for causes other than as a direct result of a traumatic event occurring during the performance of regular or assigned duties. Benefit is an immediate life annuity equal to 1/2 of AFC.
	Accidental Disability Retirement	Permanent and total disabled as a direct result of a traumatic event occurring while performing regular or assigned duties. Benefit is an immediate life annuity equal to 2/3 of AFC.
	Death Benefits	Death of member of system. Spouse must be married to member prior to retirement, or at least five years before member's death. Benefit is an annuity equal to 25% of member's AFC plus an additional 15% (25%) for one (two or more) surviving dependent child (children). If there is no spouse or if the spouse dies or remarries, 20% (35%, 50%) of AFC to one (two, three or more) surviving child (children). If there is no surviving spouse or children, 25% (40%) of AFC to one (two) dependent parent(s). The provision for a survivor annuity payable to dependent parents does not apply in the death of a retired member of the system. Minimum benefits: Minimum spousal annuity is $1,600 per annum. If no other benefit is payable prior to retirement, the member's beneficiary shall receive the accumulated deductibles.
	Cost-Of-Living Increases	Cost-of-living increases are granted to retired members and their eligible survivors in accordance with the Pension Adjustment Act. Chapter 78, P.L. 2011 suspended the cost of living adjustments for current and future retirees and beneficiaries until reactivated as permitted by law.
3.	Employee Contributions	Each member contributes 6% of compensation.