



# Employees' Retirement System City of Milwaukee

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## December 2019 Retiree Newsletter

Please read the entire newsletter as it contains important information concerning your enclosed December check stub or direct deposit form, 2019 tax reporting, and health insurance updates for City of Milwaukee retirees.

### Note for Retirees with the City's Health Insurance:

As required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the City of Milwaukee, as the health plan sponsor, sends out **Form 1095-B** to retirees who have health insurance coverage through the City. This form is mailed separately from your 1099-R form and will be mailed at the end of January 2020. Please wait until February 15, 2020 before you contact this office for a replacement. Retirees who receive a non-taxable benefit, but have health insurance will also receive this form. Please note that the amounts listed on this form will only include premium deductions for the City's **health** plans. If you have any other insurance coverage being deducted from your pension payment, including the City's dental insurance coverage, please retain your December 2019 payment stub for those year-to-date totals.

### 1099-Rs for 2019:

If your pension benefit is subject to Federal income tax, the 1099-R for the pension benefits paid to you in calendar year 2019 will be mailed by the end of January 2020 in accordance with IRS regulations. If you are a recent retiree and received a GPS lump-sum bonus during 2019, you will receive a separate 1099-R for that portion of the bonus you rolled over. Any portion taken in cash will be included with the 1099-R containing your monthly annuity payments. If you receive multiple benefits from ERS (e.g. your own retirement benefit as well as a survivorship benefit from the account of your deceased spouse), you will receive a separate 1099-R for each benefit you received in 2019. Your 1099-R will be mailed to the address on file with this office. If you want this form mailed to another address, you must inform the ERS office in writing no later than January 10, 2020. Please note that all 1099-Rs will be mailed on the same date, but they may arrive at your address at different times. The post office will be delivering millions of these forms at about the same time, so there is a possibility your form might be delayed in the mail.

**Important:** Do NOT make an appointment with your tax preparer/accountant until you receive your 1099-R form. If you have not received your form 1099-R, please wait until February 15, 2020 before you contact this office for a replacement. No replacements will be processed before that date. Also, replacement 1099-Rs are not processed on a walk-in basis. Requests are processed in the order received.

### Recently Retired ERS Members

John Atkisson- MPD\*  
Larry Bell- DPW-Parking  
Sharon Betthausen- DPW-Infrastructure  
Christopher Black- DPW-Infrastructure  
Kevin Bolinski- DPW-Infrastructure  
James Conner- DPW-Parking  
Valerian Galante- Wisconsin Center  
Rhonda Giesfeldt- MPS\*  
Harold Glick- Wisconsin Center  
Gilberto Gonzalez- MFD  
Evelyn Green- MPS\*  
Lovedia Hamer- MPS  
Mary Hanrahan- MPS  
Brian Hardrath- MPD  
Peter Hassel- DPW -Operations  
Michael Heinowski- MFD  
Stephen Holt- Administration\*  
Ernest Janusz- MPS  
Robert Kendall- MFD  
Pamela Kozeniecki- MPS\*  
Robbie Lloyd- MPD  
Thomas Marcowka- MFD  
Thomas Obregon- MPD  
Cheryl Patane- Fire & Police  
Commission  
Jacqueline Pordon- MPS\*  
Norma Quiles- MPS\*  
Karen Reasby- City Development  
Susan Rejman-Zember- City  
Development\*  
Harry Roberts- MFD  
Gregory Rudolph- DPW-Operations  
Thomas Runnells- DPW-Infrastructure  
David Sivyer- DPW-Operations  
James Smith- Neighborhood Services  
Michael Thomas- MPD  
Labarion Wells- DPW-Sewer  
Karen Zastrow- MPS\*

\*Deferred

### Important Dates in January:

January 1, 2020 – New Year's Day Holiday (**ERS closed**)

January 10, 2020 – Affidavits for lost December checks begin.

January 20, 2020– Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday (**ERS closed**)

Your January 2020 benefit payment will be mailed on January 30 and made payable for January 31.  
Direct deposits will be in accounts on January 31.

**Attention All Members – Especially Those Receiving Duty Disability Benefits:**

Please be sure to retain all of your pay stubs, especially your December check stub or direct deposit advice. This statement summarizes your monthly annuity pay and deduction amounts for the calendar year. For example, you will see that all of your health insurance premiums paid for the year are found under the “Year-To-Date” column on your stub/advice. You may need this information when completing your tax return since health insurance deduction totals are not included on your 1099R form. **IMPORTANT:** If you receive a benefit, which is not taxable and, therefore, not reportable on a form 1099R, **such as a duty disability** or accidental death annuity, this year-end statement will be the only record you will have of your payments. **You will not receive a 1099R form; please refer to your final pay stub for this information.**

**2020 CPI COLA Factor is 2.0513%:** *(This only affects certain Police and Fire Retirees)*

Every December, the ERS calculates the rate to be used to determine COLA factors granted to most protective service members based on the Consumer Price Index – All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). In November of 2019, the index was 257.208 as compared with 252.038 in November of 2018, an increase of 2.0513%.

The CPI COLA is calculated using the Consumer Price Index – All Urban Consumers data. The CPI statistics can be found on the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics website: <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/surveymost?cu> Select the first index in the list presented on the website. Take the current year’s November 2019 index number and subtract the November 2018 index number. Divide this answer by the November 2018 index number.

COLA increases granted in calendar year 2020 to those protective service members whose COLA is determined by the CPI-U will be 2.0513%.

- In Memoriam*  
**ERS Retirees who have recently died:**
- Jessie Albritton-MPS
  - Louis Bertoni-Bridges and Public Buildings
  - John Bitzke-MFD
  - Roger Braun-DPW-Municipal Equipment
  - Laura Christian-MPS
  - Victoria Diges-MPS
  - Ronald Ebert-City Development
  - Louise Feiertag-MPS
  - Barbara Fields-MPS
  - Raynaldo Garcia-DPW-Operations
  - Arline Gibeaut-MPS
  - Mary Anne Gross-MATC
  - Guy Grutza-DPW-Infrastructure
  - Raymond Grzona-MPS
  - Robert Harris-Health
  - Gerald Kaisler-DPW - Municipal Equipment
  - Kenneth Kasinski-MPD
  - Helen Kasper-Library
  - Marco Kos-MMSD
  - Audrey Kosmeder-Library
  - Patrick Leffler-MPD
  - Willie Matthews-MPS
  - Robert Maultra-Bridges and Public Buildings
  - Sharon Miller-MPS
  - Ronald Paszkowski-Forestry
  - Laverne Pries-Treasurer's Office
  - Marion Schoenfeld-MPS
  - David Stelter-MPD
  - Clara Upchurch-MPS
  - Robert Winters-MPD
  - Richard Wojciechowski-MPD
  - Aurelia Yeko-DOA-Purchasing

**Attention Milwaukee Police Department Retirees- Officers & Civilian Personnel**

I am Wray Young, President of the Milwaukee Retired Police Association (MRPA) and I would like to invite **all officers & civilian employees who have retired from the MPD** to become a member of our organization. Formed in 1975, the MRPA's ranks have grown to more than 1,200 members from coast to coast. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the American Legion Post on S. 92<sup>nd</sup> & Beloit where we offer a variety of musical entertainment & guest speakers addressing pension & health insurance issues. If you want to just visit or play cards, we guarantee you will have an enjoyable afternoon, capped off with free beer, soda and a wonderful free hot lunch!

The MRPA hosts casino trips, an April Alioto's Fish Fry, the July Police Picnic, an August Golf Outing at Western Lakes CC, and a wonderful December Christmas party. Cannot make the meetings- do not worry; everyone receives 9 newsletters a year with news from and about your MPD friends as well as job opportunities and other important newsworthy articles on health & pension issues. Check out our website [www.mrpa.us](http://www.mrpa.us) where you will find a wealth of MRPA information, including photos from all our events & a “Final Roll Call” page.

For just \$5.00 a year, and with everything the MRPA offers, it certainly is a terrific bargain! Fill out the application below today and your membership will be good until the end of 2020. Remember: you must have been a police officer or civilian employee who retired from the Milwaukee Police Dept. to be eligible to join the MRPA, or still working & have at least 25 years of service.

**Do NOT send to the ERS**

2020 MRPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
RENEWABLE EVERY JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

Please check: NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ DUES \$5.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print clearly!)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT # \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF RETIREMENT \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ WEDDING ANNIV (MO/DAY/YEAR) \_\_\_\_\_

I COMPLETED 25 YEARS WITH THE MPD IN (YEAR) \_\_\_\_\_ AND/OR RETIRED IN (YEAR) \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECK OUT TO: MRPA & MAIL TO PO BOX 340877, MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN 53234-0877