



Employees' Retirement System of the City of Milwaukee

789 North Water Street, Suite 300, Milwaukee WI 53202

(414) 286-3557 or (800) 815-8418

Visit our website: <http://www.cmers.com/>

Questions or comments? E-mail norm@cmers.com

February 2021 Newsletter

1099R for 2020

If you have not received your 1099R for 2020, please contact the pension office so we can mail you a new form. You will need this form for filing your income tax return for 2020. Do not wait until the last minute! Replacement forms will be issued free-of-charge through April 15, 2021. Any request for a replacement after that date will be filled only upon receipt of a \$15.00 processing fee. If you receive a Duty Disability benefit from the ERS, you will not receive a 1099R, because this benefit is not taxable or reportable to the IRS.

If you are a recent retiree and you received a GPS lump-sum bonus during 2020 and elected to roll over all or part of your GPS lump sum bonus, you should have received a separate 1099R for your GPS lump sum bonus rollover. If you elected to receive all or part of the GPS lump sum bonus in cash, the payment you received in cash was included with the 1099R containing your monthly annuity payments.

If you receive multiple benefits from the ERS (e.g. your own benefit as well as a survivorship benefit from the account of your deceased spouse), you should have received a separate 1099R for each benefit you received in 2020.

The ERS staff is not allowed to give tax advice or answer specific tax questions. We cannot recommend how much you should have withheld or tell you if you need to file a tax return. Please consult the applicable IRS instructions or a tax professional.

If you would like to change your tax withholding for federal or WI taxes, you may download the tax withholding form from our website at: www.cmers.com under "Benefits" "Pension Payment Information" "Tax withholding". If you do not have internet access, you may contact the ERS office and we will mail you the required form.

Retired members can view their current 1099R data as well as past 1099R data on our Member Self Service Site. Instructions for creating a secure login can be found on our website under "ERS Member Self Service."

2020 Investment Update

The City of Milwaukee Pension Fund had a return of 10.9%, net of fees, in the fourth quarter of 2020. This return outperformed the Fund's blended benchmark by 2.6%, and helped the Fund generate a 6.6% net of fee return for the 2020 full year, which underperformed the blended benchmark by 5.9%. Certainty around the Presidential election outcome, followed quickly by better than expected vaccine news in mid-November, drove markets sharply higher to finish the year, continuing the rebound off the March lows caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Public Equity led the way with a quarterly return of 18.0%, net of fees. Also during the quarter, the Fund's Fixed Income was up 2.3% and the Absolute Return asset class was up 5.3%, both net of fees. The Fund's Private Equity and Real Estate allocations reported net of fee returns of 13.7% and 0.5%, respectively, in the third quarter of 2020, which is the most recent quarterly data available. The market value of the Fund on December 31, 2020 totaled approximately \$5.53 billion.

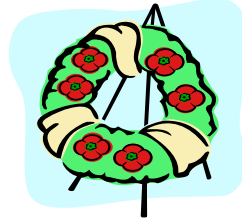
March Happenings

- * Daylight Savings Time begins in most areas on Sunday, March 14.
Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.
- * St. Patrick's Day – March 17
- * First day of spring – March 20

Pension Payments

- * Your March 2020 benefit payment will be mailed Tuesday, March 30; payable on Wednesday, March 31.
- * Retirees **with direct deposit** will have their payments in their accounts on Wednesday, March 31.
- * Processing affidavits for lost February checks will start on Wednesday, March 10.

ERS Retirees who have recently died:



Richard Bergman-Library
Donald Bradshaw-DPW-Operations
Rodrigo Castaneda-MFD
Pamela Corbeil-MPS
Arthur Czarnecki-MPD
Grace Foti-MPS
Raymond Franecki-MPD
Richard Freiberg-Wisconsin Center
William Friar-Information Systems
Harold Glick-Wisconsin Center
Dock Grady-Sanitation
Frank Hayes-MFD
Lawrence Ivory-MPS
Harold Jones-DPW-Water
Robert Kazmerchek-MPS
Jane Kirsch-MPS
Lyle Madlung-MMSD
Lorrayne Margulski-MPS
Vickie Miller-MPS
Terese Neumann-MPS
Michael Pedriana-MFD
Robert Polikowski-DOA
Ralph Radtke-DPW-Building & Fleet
William Rupsoff-MPD
Theodore Scher-City Service
Raymond Schulz-MPS
Isabel Scott-MPS
Gerard Sengbusch-DCD
Colette Switalski-Health
Anne Tobias-MPS
James Uhlers-MPS
Hobart Weisman-MFD

Recently Retired ERS Members

James Allen- MPS
Samir Amin- DPW-Infrastructure
David Anderson- DCD
Steven Balistreri- Assesor's Office
Teresa Beamon- MPS*
Randie Blom- DOA
Cynthia Braatz- MPS
Patrick Brousseau- MPD
Larry Brown- DPW-Operations
Gloria Ciardo- MMSD
James Dropik- MMSD
Robert Ewend- MMSD
Warren Farmer- MMSD
Andrea Fendry- MPD*
Melissa Fulgenzi- Comptroller
Julian Gladney- MFD
John Grisson- MPS
Nathan Hanisko- DPW-Water
James Hoeffler- Housing Authority
Jonathan Hopkins- DOA
Alan Jasenovec- DPW-Infrastructure
Mark Kasper- Library
Scott Kirchoff- Urban Forestry*
Steve Koenigsberg- DPW-Operations
Daniel Laska- DPW-Operations
Linda Long- MPD
James Mac Gillis- MPD
Christine Marshall- MPS*
Alan Matyas- DPW-Sewer
Loren May- MFD
Geoffrey Mc Fatridge- DPW-Operations
Brent Miller- MFD
John Mitten- MPD*
Steve Morgan- MMSD
Brian O'Connell- MPD*
Joan Orlovski- MPS
Susan Paulsen Mcneese- MPS
Jeffery Pavelchik- DPW-Water
Thomas Pechacek- DPW-Infrastrusture
Charlene Pena- DPW-Administration
Peter Petersen- DPW-Infrastructure
Earl Przybylski- MMSD
Karen Reid Sims- City Attorney*
Lavenia Shorter- MPS
Lanita Tate- MPS
Delores Thomas- MPD
John Walfoort- DPW-Operations
Jannie Wilks- MPS
Kelly Winfrey- MFD
Rosemary Wisniewski- Neighborhood Services
Maurice Woulfe- MPD
Susan Wroblewski- MPD
Mark Zalewski- MFD
*Deferred retirement

Have You Moved Out of State

The post office will NOT forward your pension check or direct deposit notification. You must notify our office in writing of address changes. This is for your protection. We do not want your information going to someone else.

There are three ways to change your address:

1) Download a change of address form from our website: www.cmers.com. **NOTE: If you log on to the ERS Member Self-Service by creating a user name and password, you can submit the address change to the ERS electronically.**

2) Call the ERS office at (414) 286-3557 or (800) 815-8418 and we will be glad to mail a change of address form to you.

3) On letter-sized paper, print your name, old address, new address, social security or payee ID number and sign.

Please let us know if the change is temporary or permanent and the effective date of the change. Mail your address change to: 789 N. Water St., Suite 300, Milwaukee WI 53202.

Be sure to submit a new tax withholding form as well. Your WI state tax withholdings will not automatically cease if you submit a change of address for out of state. You will need to complete a new tax withholding form to stop WI state withholdings. You may download the tax withholding form from our website at: www.cmers.com under "Benefits" "Pension Payment Information" "Tax withholding". If you do not have internet access, you may contact the ERS office and we will mail you the required form.

Has My Check Amount Changed

Were you eligible for a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase? More than half of our retirees receive COLA increases effective January 1st of each year. (The remaining retirees receive their COLA increase on their retirement anniversary.)

Updated 1099-R's Mailed Feb. 10th

Updated 2020 1099-Rs were mailed to benefit recipients on February 10, 2021. While **the amounts between the two versions of forms mailed out did not change**, the second mailing was done because the IRS renumbered boxes related to the State and Local Taxes on the form for 2020 but those changes were not properly noticed in the IRS's publications. To distinguish the two versions, the updated forms have a statement indicating that they are the updated version on the top right corner. Again, **the amounts reported did not change, nor did the categories/description of the boxes – only the box numbers were updated for the boxes now numbered 12 through 19.** Updated 1099-R forms are also available via the Member Self Service function on ERS's website (www.cmers.com).

Closing Bank Accounts

Please be sure to notify our office if you plan to close your current bank account. You must submit a new ACH (direct deposit) form. We suggest you open the new account first, let us know in a timely manner and then close your old account after the first transfer has gone into your new account. If you need a direct deposit form to change accounts, please download the form from our website www.cmers.com on the "Forms" page, under "Other" or call our office to request that a form be sent to you. If you are closing your current bank account due to fraud, please contact our office so we can help you properly change your banking information with our office.