



# First Responder

Volume 2011.12 – December 2011

## 2011: The Pension System Year in Review

By Steve Umlor, Vice Chairman and Police Trustee

As another year draws to a close and we get ready to move into 2012, I wanted to take this opportunity to review the past year here at the Pension System. Next month, Chairman George Tomasovic will look forward at our plans for the new year.

The year 2011 was a year of change, but we believe that the changes will help protect the plan for the future. In January, the Board proposed several necessary changes to the plan to strengthen future funding. A Plan Amendment election was held in

February, and 88% of those voting approved the changes. As reflected in this year's report from our Actuary, the changes to the plan appear



Steve Umlor  
Vice Chairman  
Police Trustee

See "Retirement Process" on page 2

## Council Member Delia Jasso Appointed to Board of Trustees



Delia Jasso  
District 1  
Dallas City Council

Dallas District 1 City Council Member Delia D. Jasso was appointed to the Dallas Police and Fire Pension Board of Trustees in October, and was welcomed at the Regular monthly Board Meeting on November 10.

Delia Jasso was elected to

the Dallas City Council in June 2009, having previously served as a community and civic leader for more than 20 years. For seven years from 2002-2009, she served as former Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Elba Garcia's appointee to the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Board and was elected to Vice President of the Board by the Dallas City Council. Delia has also served and held office with

the Women's Council of Dallas County, Kidd Springs Neighborhood Association, Forward Dallas Advisory Committee, Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society and the Lecture Luncheon Club of Oak Cliff.

There are four City Council Places on the Board, which are appointed by the full City Council. There are six employee-elected Places and two Pensioner-elected Place on the Board.

# 2011: The Pension System Year in Review

*(Continued from page 1)*

to have had the desired effect to help sustain the plan for the foreseeable future.

Also in February, Active Firefighters elected Lt. Samuel Friar in a special election to fill the unexpired term of retired Fire Trustee Gerald Brown. After the regular Trustee election in April, and a run-off in May, the Board welcomed two new Active Police Trustees in June. Officer Thomas White and Sgt. Dan Wojcik were elected as Police Trustees.

During the Plan Amendment election process, some members expressed concern over what they felt were deficiencies in our communications with the members. The Board heard you and is taking steps to improve our communications. In addition to printed materials, our Website ([www.dpfp.org](http://www.dpfp.org)), and e-mail, we have increased our use of social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube to supplement the delivery of our messages when appropriate. We have produced several video messages featuring our Chairman, George Tomasovic, and posted the videos on YouTube, with links on our

Website, Facebook page, and Twitter feed. We also will attempt to make greater use in the future of each department's internal communications processes for a broader dissemination of information important to you.

In the summer, we completed and distributed the new Member Handbooks, reflecting the changes from the Plan Amendment election. Printed copies were mailed out to Members, and are also available at the Pension System office. An electronic version is available on our Website.

One other major issue that the Board has been watching is the political climate in relation to public pension plans. Constant battles are being waged against defined benefit pension plans such as ours. You can be sure the Board will keep watch and do everything within our power to protect our pension.

The Board is tasked with the "Big Picture" planning and oversight of the Pension System, and we rely on the Administration and staff to carry out the day to day operation. Through the end of September, our Benefits Counselors have conducted

460 Retirement Counseling Sessions for members retiring and 505 Counseling Sessions for Members entering DROP. We have participated in 63 educational classes, meetings and home visits and processed 251 Qualified Domestic Relations Orders. Late this year, we offered a new education programs for our younger Members to help them better understand their benefits and also to present other financial related information to help them in this stage of their careers.

As a Board, we work for you and we will listen to your comments and concerns. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at the Pension System Building, and invite you to attend. It will give you a much better understanding of what the Board does and how the Pension System operates. The staff of the Pension System is ready, able, and willing to help you as well. Please call 214.638.3863 or send e-mail to [info@dpfp.org](mailto:info@dpfp.org).

Thanks,

***Steve Umlor,  
Vice Chairman,  
Police Trustee***

## DRFFA Announces 2012 Application Details for Denny Burris Scholarship Fund

The Dallas Retired Firefighters Association is pleased to announce that the DRFFA Denny Burris Scholarship Fund will be awarding four \$500 Scholarships in 2012 to assist members of the Dallas Fire Rescue family in their educational endeavors.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate some family relationship to a current or retired member of the Dallas Fire Rescue Department. Applicants may be attending or plan to attend either a university, junior college or accredited trade school.

Applicants may obtain a complete set of requirements, guidelines and an application form by contacting:

*Dallas Retired Fire Fighters Association*

*Patricia Warnock, Secretary-Treasurer*

*P.O. Box 814066*

*Dallas, TX 75381- 4066*

*E-mail: Patricia.Warnock@sbcglobal.net*

*Phone: 214-695-1466*

The deadline for submission of applications is March 31, 2012.

## Congratulations to Our New Retirees, including:

### FIRE

Gregory K. Baker  
Steven K. Hollywood  
Melvin Porter  
George R. Scott  
Kevin F. Sipes  
Robert Smith  
R. T. Wooten

### POLICE

Nancy W. Bardin  
Ronald E. Bardin  
Allan E. Bunte  
Alex M. Garcia  
Roger D. Hetrick  
Kevin G. Huey  
Daniel J. Lusty  
Ronald A. Pettie  
Herman T. Sawyer  
Billy Shehee  
Dwayne C. Sides  
Toni Z. Williams



D A L L A S  
POLICE & FIRE  
PENSION SYSTEM



**Website:** [www.dfp.org](http://www.dfp.org)

**e-mail:** [info@dpfp.org](mailto:info@dpfp.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/DallasPoliceFirePension](http://www.facebook.com/DallasPoliceFirePension)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/DPFP\\_Info](http://www.twitter.com/DPFP_Info)

**YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/DPFPSystem](http://www.youtube.com/DPFPSystem)



## Mark Your Calendar

- Thursday, December 8 - Regular Board Meeting
- Monday, December 26 - Pension Office closed for Christmas
- Monday, January 2, 2012 - Pension Office closed for New Year's Day
- Monday, January 16, 2012 - Pension Office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



4100 Harry Hines Blvd.  
Suite 100  
Dallas, TX 75219

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

George J. Tomasovic  
*Chairman*

Steven H. Umlor  
*Vice Chairman*

Rick Salinas  
*Deputy Vice Chairman*

Jerry R. Allen

Samuel L. Friar

Delia Jasso

Sheffie Kadane

John M. Mays

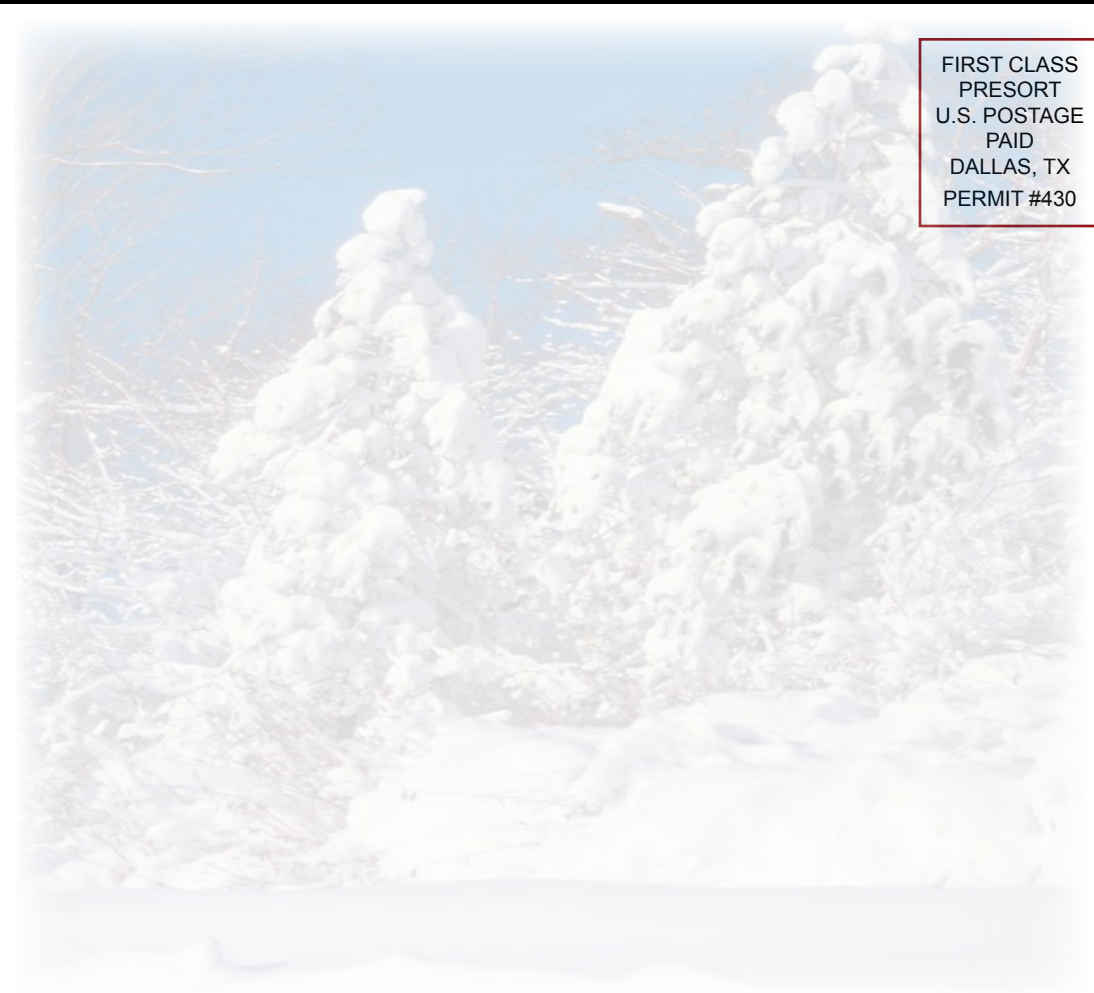
David A. Neumann

Richard H. Wachsman

Thomas L. White

Daniel W. Wojcik

**First Responder**  
December 2011



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**From the Administrator**

*By Richard L. Tettamant,  
Pension System Administrator*



Greetings! In this edition of the *First Responder*, Our Vice Chairman, Steve Umlor, looks back at the last year here at the Pension System. Also, we welcome a new Trustee, District 1 City Council Member Delia Jasso.

We hope that your year has been good, and that during this Holiday season, you have a restful time with your family and friends however you choose to celebrate. From the Board of Trustees, the Administration, and the Staff, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Remember, we are here to serve you. If you have any specific questions or concerns, feel free to call and talk to a Benefits Counselor.

*Richard L. Tettamant  
Pension System Administrator*

**ADMINISTRATION**

Richard L. Tettamant  
*Administrator*  
Brian F. Blake  
*Chief Investment Strategist*  
Donald C. Rohan  
*Assistant Administrator*  
Mike Taylor  
*Chief Financial Officer*

4100 Harry Hines Blvd.  
Ste. 100  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
214.638.3863  
1.800.638.3861  
www.dpfp.org  
info@dpfp.org

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Kevin W. Killingsworth  
*Editor*