



D A L L A S  
**POLICE & FIRE**  
PENSION SYSTEM



## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** February 13, 2017  
**To:** Prospective Trustees  
**Subject:** Fiduciary Responsibility and Duties

### **INTERNAL REVENUE CODE -- Section 401(a)(2)**

A trust organized in the United States and forming part of a . . . pension or profit-sharing plan of an employer for the exclusive benefit of its employees or their beneficiaries shall constitute a qualified trust under this section --

(b) if under the trust instrument it is impossible, at any time prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities with respect to employees and beneficiaries under the trust, for any part of the corpus or income to be . . . used for or diverted to, purposes other than the exclusive benefit of his employees or their beneficiaries . . .

### **TEXAS CONSTITUTION --**

#### **ARTICLE XVI, SECTION 67(f)**

The board of trustees of a system or program that provides retirement and related disability and death benefits for public officers and employees and that does not participate in a statewide public retirement system shall:

- (1) administer the system or program of benefits;
- (2) hold the assets of the system or program for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries and defraying reasonable expenses of administering the system or program; and
- (3) select legal counsel and an actuary and adopt sound actuarial assumptions to be used by the system or program.

ARTICLE XVI, SECTION 66(d)

(d) On or after the effective date of this section, a change in service or disability retirement benefits or death benefits of a retirement system may not reduce or otherwise impair benefits accrued by a person if the person:

(1) could have terminated employment or has terminated employment before the effective date of the change; and

(2) would have been eligible for those benefits, without accumulating additional service under the retirement system, on any date on or after the effective date of the change had the change not occurred.

(e) Benefits granted to a retiree or other annuitant before the effective date of this section and in effect on that date may not be reduced or otherwise impaired.

(f) The political subdivision or subdivisions and the retirement system that finance benefits under the retirement system are jointly responsible for ensuring that benefits under this section are not reduced or otherwise impaired.

**TEXAS STATUTES -- GOVERNMENT CODE**

Section 802.101(a) -- The governing body of a public retirement system shall employ an actuary . . . To make a valuation at least once every three years of the assets and liabilities of the system on the basis of assumptions and methods that are reasonable in the aggregate, considering the experience of the program and reasonable expectations, and that, in combination, offer the best estimate of anticipated experience under the plan.

Section 802.102(b) -- The governing body of a public retirement system shall have the accounts of the system audited at least annually . . .

Section 802.106(a) -- When a person becomes a member of a public retirement system, the system shall provide the person;

(1) a summary of the benefits from the retirement system . . .

(2) a summary of procedures for claiming or choosing benefits . . .

Section 802.106(b) -- The public retirement system shall distribute to each active member and retiree a summary of any significant change that . . . affects contributions, benefits or eligibility.

Section 802.106(c) -- the public retirement system shall annually provide to each active member a statement of the member's accumulated contributions and the total accumulated service credit . . . and to each annuitant a statement of the amount of payments made to the annuitant by the system during the preceding 12 months.

Section 802.201 -- The governing body of a public retirement system shall hold or cause to be held in trust the assets appropriated or dedicated to the system, for the benefit of the members and retirees of the system and their beneficiaries.

Section 802.202(a) -- the governing body of a public retirement system is responsible for the management and administration of the funds of the system.

Section 802.202(c) -- the governing body shall determine the procedure it finds most efficient and beneficial for management of the reserve fund of the system. The governing body may directly manage the investments of the system or may choose and contract for professional investment management services.

Section 802.202(d) -- the governing body of public retirement system shall . . . develop and maintain a written investment policy.

Section 802.203(a) -- In making and supervising investments of the reserve fund of a public retirement system, an investment manager or the governing body shall discharge its duties solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries:

(1) for the exclusive purpose of:

- (A) providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries; and
- (B) defraying reasonable expenses of administering the system;

(2) with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the prevailing circumstances that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with matters of the type would use in the conduct of like character and like aims;

(3) by diversifying the investments of the system to minimize the risk of large losses, unless under the circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so; and

(4) in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the system . . .

Section 802.203(b) -- In choosing and contracting for professional investment management services and in continuing the use of an investment manager, the governing body must act prudently and in the interest of participants and beneficiaries of the public retirement system.

Section 802.203(c) -- A trustee is not liable for the acts of omissions of an investment manager appointed under Section 802.204.

Section 802.204. (a) The governing body of a public retirement system may appoint investment managers for the system by contracting for professional investment management services with one or more organizations, which may include a bank if it has a trust department, that are in the business of managing investments.

(b) To be eligible for appointment under this section, an investment manager must be:

- (1) registered under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. Section 80b-1 et seq.);
- (2) a bank as defined by that Act; or
- (3) an insurance company qualified to perform investment services under the laws of more than one state.

(c) In a contract made under this section, the governing body shall specify any policies, requirements, or restrictions, including criteria for determining the quality of investments and for the use of standard rating services that the governing body adopts for investments of the system.

(d) A political subdivision of which members of the public retirement system are officers or employees may pay all or part of the cost of professional investment management services under a contract under this section. Any cost not paid directly by a political subdivision is payable from funds of the public retirement system.

Section 802.206 -- The governing body of a public retirement system may at any time and shall at frequent intervals monitor the investments made by any investment manager for the system. The governing body may contract for professional evaluation services to fulfill this requirement.

**TEXAS STATUTES -- ARTICLE 6243a-1, Texas Civil Statutes**

Section 3.01(a) -- The pension system shall be administered by the board.

Section 3.01(l) -- The Board has full power to invest the assets of the Fund . . .

Section 3.02 -- . . . the Board has the authority to employ the services of any professional consultant, including investment advisors and investment managers, whenever the services of such consultants are considered necessary or desirable and in the best interest of the Pension System.

Section 3.04 -- The Board has the authority to appoint an Administrator to carry out the business of the Board and keep a record of the proceedings of the Board.

Section 4.07 (e) -- The Board, in exercising its control, may at any time, and shall at frequent intervals, monitor the investments made by any investment manager and shall enforce full compliance with the requirements of the Board.

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