



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS  
POLICE & FIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
233 E. FULTON, SUITE 216  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503  
PHONE: 616-456-4300

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## *The Retirement Register*

### Announcement Regarding the 13th Check

We are pleased to announce that there will be a 13th Check Pension Supplement issued on January 30, 2015. As you know the 13th Check is issued annually, if funds are available, by the City of Grand Rapids Police & Fire Retirement System to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. This check, a negotiated part of your retirement benefit, can only occur when the average annual market value rates of return for the investment of retirement system assets have experienced sufficient gains during the last five years to allow for the distribution of excess reserve funds. Although it is our hope that a distribution will always occur, the economy, volatility of financial markets, and other considerations may not make it possible to do so every year.

This year's 13th Check Pension Supplement is being issued to eligible retirees and beneficiaries on January 30, 2015. Any direct deposit and tax withholding arrangements previously made by the retiree for regular monthly benefit payments will also apply to this 13th Check payment.

Feel free to call the Retirement Systems Office at (616) 456-4300 if you have questions.

Please note that the members of the covered groups listed below **are not** eligible for the 13th Check program:

#### Covered Group

Fire Fighters, except Fire Chief  
Police Officers/Sergeants, except Police Chief & Deputy Police Chief  
Police Command

#### Termination Date With The City

On or after July 1, 2007  
On or after December 17, 2008  
On or after February 19, 2010

The above listed groups are instead eligible for an Escalator increase, as follows:

#### Covered Group

Fire Fighters, except Fire Chief  
Police Officers/Sergeants, except Police Chief & Deputy Police Chief  
Police Command

#### Amount & Waiting Period

1.5% after two years of retirement  
1.0% after five years of retirement  
1.0% after five years of retirement

Please call the Retirement Systems office at (616) 456-4300 if you have any questions.

### December Earnings Statement

Please keep your December Earnings Statement from The Northern Trust Company handy as it contains valuable information for the 2014 tax year. This statement lists the following important information:

- Gross pension paid
- Total taxable pension
- Total taxes withheld
- Net pension received
- Total non-taxable pension
- Total healthcare deductions

## Pension or Insurance Questions?

If you have questions regarding your pension, please contact the City of Grand Rapids Retirement Systems Office at (616) 456-4300. All address, direct deposit, federal withholding, or name changes **must be sent in writing** to: **City of Grand Rapids Retirement Systems, 233 E. Fulton Street, Suite 216, Grand Rapids, MI 49503**. Changes received by mid-month will be effective at the end of that month. Please note that any of the aforementioned changes **must be signed by the retiree**, unless he/she has a valid Power of Attorney document on file with the Retirement Systems Office.

**City health insurance** questions should be directed to Insurance Services at (616) 456-3300. **Seniors Choice insurance** questions should be directed to (888) 228-3002.

## Recent Retirement Statistics

According to the information in our databases, here are some statistics on recent Police & Fire Retirement System retirees:

Year	# of Retirees	Gender	Type of Retirement	Average # of Service Years
2010	6	6 Male	1 Age & Service 3 Duty Disability 1 Early 1 Non-Duty Disability	15.1389
2011	12	2 Female 10 Male	11 Age & Service 1 Duty Disability	28.5833
2012	15	2 Female 13 Male	11 Age & Service 1 Death-in Service 1 Deferred 1 Duty Disability 1 Early	22.8778
2013	18	5 Female 13 Male	11 Age & Service 1 Deferred 1 Deferred Early 3 Duty Disability 1 Early 1 Non-Duty Disability	27.0000

## In Memory of Departed Friends

Burnetta Gildner*	10/05/14	Willard Watson	11/27/14
Edward Maier	10/30/14	Walter McVeigh	12/09/14
John Ball	10/31/14	Arleen Faber*	12/18/14
Joseph Maksymowski	11/01/14		

\*Denotes Beneficiary

## New Retirees

The Trustees and staff of the Police & Fire Retirement System are pleased to congratulate the following new retirees:

Peter Gavalis (Police) 10/23/14 Douglas Brinkley\* (Police) 11/01/14 Carol Stahl\* (Police) 11/01/14

\*Deferred