

Retirement News Update

Please join us:

2007 COA ERS

Annual Members' Meeting

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

at

the Retirement Office

418 E. Highland Mall Blvd.

Austin, Texas

Have You Moved Recently?

Moving from one home to another can be an exciting and busy time. Often we forget to do simple but important things. One of these things may be to notify your employer and other agencies about your current address.

The Retirement Office will be mailing some very important information to Active and Retired Members in the next few months. It is critical that your address be current in order for you to receive these mailings.

All correspondence from the COA ERS to active City employees is sent to the employee's address of record. These records are updated based on the address on file with the City of Austin Payroll Department. Active employees must change their address with the Payroll Office by calling (512) 974-3001.

Retirees should contact the Retirement Office at (512) 458-2551. Forms can also be obtained from our website at www.coaers.org.



Please take the time to ensure that your address is correct so that you are kept up-to-date on what's happening at your Retirement System.

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2006 Certified Annual Financial Report Available

The 2006 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) provides in-depth information about the financial, investment, and actuarial aspects of the COA ERS retirement plan. To obtain a copy of the report, you are welcome to attend the Annual Members' Meeting on October 17th. You may also request a copy by contacting the Retirement Office by phone at (512) 458-2551, by email at info@coaers.org, or by downloading a copy from our website at www.coaers.org.

Active Member News & Notes

COA ERS Newsletter Distribution

Since the January 2005 edition, the COA ERS Retirement News Update has been distributed quarterly to current City of Austin employees via the City's electronic pay stub system. To access the newsletter, employees may click on the "View Attachments" icon on their electronic pay stub. There will be a link to the current newsletter on that page. Those employees who continue to receive paper copies of their pay stubs will continue to receive paper copies of the COA ERS newsletter as well. If you are not receiving either an electronic or hard copy newsletter, please contact the Retirement Office at (512) 458-2551. Current and back issues of our newsletter can also be viewed on the COA ERS website at www.coaers.org.

Active Board Trustee Election

Just a reminder that we will be conducting an election for Active Board Member Places 6 and 7 in November of this year. These places are currently held by Cathy Rodgers and Mark Monteith. The term of office for these places is from January 2008 through December 31, 2011.

Ballots will be mailed to Active Members at their home addresses in October. Please note that it is very important that you contact the City of Austin Payroll Dept. at (512) 974-3001 to update your address so that you receive your ballot.

All current COA ERS Active-Contributory Members will be eligible to vote in this election.



Ballots must be returned to the Retirement Office before close of business on November 28, 2007 or postmarked no later than November 28, 2007.

If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Helm, Operations Manager, at (512) 458-2551, or email, rhonda.helm@coaers.org.

Contribution Refund Processing

Are you leaving your employment with the City? Do you have less than five years of service? If so, don't forget to contact COA ERS about your retirement contributions. Go to www.coaers.org or come to the COA ERS Office to get a "Designation of Retirement Deposits" form. This form includes the required IRS Distribution Tax Notice which you should read and understand before making a decision on your retirement plan benefits. Read the form and instructions carefully before you decide whether you want to refund your contributions or roll them over into another qualified plan. Please notice that the form needs to be notarized, which is a service we provide free of charge at COA ERS. The processing of your refund can take up to 60 days after you receive your final City payroll check, which will include your final retirement contribution to the System. It is your responsibility to ensure that your employment status has been terminated from the City's payroll system and that you have received your final pay check. Note: If you have more than five years of service, please contact COA ERS before making any decisions about your retirement contributions.

Retirement Annuity and Creditable Service Calculations on the Web

Please visit our website at www.coaers.org to calculate the amount of your retirement annuity or Creditable Service Purchase. Note: These calculations are provided as **estimates only**. Final calculations will be provided by the COA ERS Staff. Please contact the Retirement Office at (512) 458-2551 for additional information.

Pension 101 Seminars

COA ERS and the City Deferred Compensation Program (Great-West Retirement Services) have developed a joint presentation "Pension 101: A Primer for City of Austin Civilian Employees". Seminars are being scheduled at 12:00 noon as "brown bags" and after work hours at 5:00 p.m. at different locations. If you are interested in learning more about the seminar or signing up for one of these seminars, please contact Great-West at (512) 457-9240 or by email at will.cornforth@gwrs.com.

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of those Members of COA ERS who were Active City of Austin employees who have passed away*:

GeorGene Parker

Date of Death 07/03/2007

Financial Services

** Please note, this list only includes those deaths of which COA ERS has been notified.*

Retired Member News & Notes

Special Election for Board of Trustees Place 10

Just a reminder that a Special Election is being held for Retired Board Member Place 10 in November of this year. This place was previously held by Francis E. Benoit who resigned his position effective June 30, 2007. The person elected to this place will serve until the current Place 10 term expires in December 2008.

Ballots will be mailed to Retired Members at their home addresses in October. Ballots must be returned to the Retirement Office before close of business on November 28, 2007 or postmarked no later than November 28, 2007.

Please note that the Retirement Office is still looking for volunteers to serve on the Nominating and Election Committee to oversee this important election process. This Committee is made up of Retired City employees currently receiving an annuity from COA ERS.

If you have any questions or would like to serve on the Committee, please contact

Rhonda Helm, Operations Manager, at (512) 458-2551, or email, rhonda.helm@coaers.org.



2007 Retiree Pay Dates

September 28th
October 31st
November 30th
December 31st

Monthly annuity payments are made on the **last business day** of each month.

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of those Retirees of COA ERS who have passed away*:

Rosalinda Acuna <i>Date of Death 06/28/2007</i> <i>Retired From</i> <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>	Thomas Kinard, Jr. <i>Date of Death 07/02/2007</i> <i>Retired From Austin Water Utility</i>	Corinne R. Rice <i>Date of Death 05/24/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>
Walter Anderson <i>Date of Death 05/04/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>	Sebastian G. Martinez <i>Date of Death 07/15/2007</i> <i>Retired From</i> <i>Austin Water Utility</i>	Millie Searcy <i>Date of Death 05/05/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>
Isiah Brown <i>Date of Death 07/13/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>	Ed Masse <i>Date of Death 05/02/2007</i> <i>Retired From Austin Energy</i>	Marietta J. Shaw <i>Date of Death 07/27/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>
V. Glenn Cootes <i>Date of Death 07/09/2007</i> <i>Retired From</i> <i>Communications Department</i>	Nancy McNicholas <i>Date of Death 06/25/2007</i> <i>Retired From Austin Water Utility</i>	Olive L. Sparks <i>Date of Death 05/30/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>
Russell E. Forester <i>Date of Death 05/08/2007</i> <i>Retired From Police</i>	Brenda J. Molizone <i>Date of Death 06/28/2007</i> <i>Retired From Police</i>	Madeline G. Swingler <i>Date of Death 07/21/2007</i> <i>Retired From Brackenridge</i>
Oscar W. Freisch <i>Date of Death 05/11/2007</i> <i>Retired From Solid Waste Services</i>	Rogelio Ortiz <i>Date of Death 07/26/2007</i> <i>Retired From Public Works</i>	Frances B. Vaughn <i>Date of Death 05/24/2007</i> <i>Retired From Aviation</i>
Helen R. Gallagher <i>Date of Death 07/10/2007</i> <i>Retired From</i> <i>Library</i>	Kelly B. Prehn <i>Date of Death 05/01/2007</i> <i>Retired From Transportation,</i> <i>Planning & Sustainability</i>	Robert J. Villalobos <i>Date of Death 06/03/2007</i> <i>Retired From Parks & Recreation</i>
Alfay Jones <i>Date of Death 05/03/2007</i> <i>Retired From Public Works</i>	Nellie J. Ream <i>Date of Death 05/03/2007</i> <i>Retired From Austin Energy</i>	

* Please note, this list only includes those deaths of which COA ERS has been notified.

Changing Your Direct Deposit

If you want your annuity check automatically deposited into your checking or savings account, or if you want to change the account into which your payment is deposited, you will need to complete an "Authorization Agreement for Direct Deposit" form. Please note that documentation from your financial institution must be provided showing the name of the institution, the type of account (checking or savings), the routing number, your name, and your account number in order to prove that you are the owner of the account. If your direct deposit will be made to your checking account, you must provide a voided check from your account. Temporary checks will not be accepted. If your deposit will be made to your savings account, you will need to provide a personalized document from your financial institution. If you have an account that does not provide checks or if you do not yet have a permanent check, a statement of account or a personalized letter signed by a representative of your financial institution will be accepted. Please note that forms received after the 12th of the month may not be effective until the following month's payroll. If you have any questions, please contact the Retirement Office.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

October

17th - Annual Members' Meeting
18th - Pre-Retirement Seminar

November

15th - Pre-Retirement Seminar
22nd & 23rd -
Retirement Office Closed in
observance of Thanksgiving
27th - COA ERS Board Meeting

December

18th - COA ERS Board Meeting
20th - Pre-Retirement Seminar
24th & 25th -
Retirement Office Closed in
observance of Christmas

Need to Discuss Your Retirement Benefits?

COA ERS Member Services Specialists are available to answer your questions by phone, email, or in person Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. If you would like to speak with a Specialist in person, please call our office at (512) 458-2551 to make an appointment. This will ensure you have adequate time to discuss any questions you may have regarding your retirement benefits. Our staff will continue to serve walk-in Members as scheduling allows.

COA ERS Board of Trustees

Mark Monteith, *Board Chair*
Elizabeth S. Gonzales,
Board Vice Chair
Janet Bartles
Francis E. Benoit
Leslie Browder
Eyna Canales-Zarate
Reagan David
Betty Dunkerley, *Mayor ProTem*
Ed Golden
Cathy Rodgers
Anthony B. Ross, Sr.

Please keep your address up to date!!

ACTIVE MEMBERS - Please contact City of Austin Payroll Dept. at (512) 974-3001 to change your address.

RETIRED & VESTED MEMBERS - Please submit a change of address in writing to the Retirement Office. Forms are available at www.coaers.org or by calling (512) 458-2551.

For your security, we will only mail financial information to the address that we have on record.

¿Habla Usted español?

Representantes están disponibles para contestar sus preguntas en español por teléfono o aquí en la oficina de COAERS. Además, contamos con algunas formas en español y podemos dar presentaciones sobre el sistema y la jubilación para los miembros interesados. Favor de hablar al (512) 458-2551 o vea nuestro sitio de Internet: www.coaers.org.

Spanish Translated Forms Available

Free Notary Services Available

The Retirement Office offers free notary services to our Members for COA ERS business only. System notaries will not notarize non-COA ERS documents.

RETIREES:

Contact the City of Austin
Benefits Office at
(512) 974-3284 for...

All information related to your medical and/or dental benefits:

*Change of Address
Claims
Premiums*

or

Information regarding your City of Austin Death Benefit.

COA ERS Staff

Executive Director
Stephen C. Edmonds

Operations Manager
Rhonda Helm

Finance Manager
Donna Boykin

Finance

Financial Analyst
Bertie Corsentino

Accounting Technician
Korrie Hoskins

Member Services

Member Services Specialists
*Johnne Behner
Teresa Cantu
Laura L. Fugate*

Member Services Coordinators
*Craig Finkelstein
Lori Bateman*

Operations

IT Coordinator
Melissa Adams

Office Coordinator
Bobbie Simpson

Website/Newsletter Suggestions?

If you have any suggestions regarding information you would like to see on the COA ERS website or in our newsletter, please email them to *rhonda.helm@coaers.org* for consideration.

City of Austin Employees' Retirement System

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Austin, Texas 78752-3720

Phone: (512) 458-2551

Fax: (512) 458-5650



City of Austin Employees' Retirement System

www.coaers.org