

# Pension Bulletin

December 2003



News for Members and Retirees  
of the State Retirement and  
Pension System of Maryland

## Special election for Employees' Systems slated for Board of Trustees

**T**he Board of Trustees for the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System has announced a special election to select a successor to Ali A. Alemi, an employee representative to the Board who recently resigned for personal reasons. The successful candidate will serve as Trustee for the remainder of former Trustee Alemi's term, which expires on July 31, 2007.

Because of changes to the Board of Trustees' composition, enacted in this year's session of the Maryland General Assembly, a candidate for the position must be a retiree from one of the following Systems: The Employees' Pension System, The Employees' Retirement System, The Judges' Retirement System, The Correctional Officers' Retirement System, The Local Fire and Police System, The Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System or The Legislative Pension Plan.

In addition to being an employee system retiree, a candidate must obtain the signatures of 500 eligible voters on official nomination petitions to appear on the ballot for office. Eligible voters are members or retirees of any of the Systems shown above. Persons signing nomination petitions must also list their dates of birth to facilitate in verifying their system membership. Social Security numbers are no longer required.

The schedule for the election is:

<b>November 18, 2003 through January 20, 2004</b>	<b>An eligible retiree candidate may obtain a nomination form from the Office of the Executive Director of the Agency.</b>
<b>February 20, 2004</b>	<b>Completed nomination forms must be submitted to the Office of the Executive Director by an eligible candidate by 4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>February 27, 2004</b>	<b>Executive Director certifies candidates who satisfied the conditions set forth in 22.03.01.06 of the Board of Trustees' Regulations. (Requires at least 500 valid signatures of eligible voters and biographical statement.)</b>
<b>March 31, 2004</b>	<b>Ballots distributed to eligible voters.</b>
<b>May 4, 2004</b>	<b>Last date for receipt of ballots from eligible voters. Deadline is 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>May 18, 2004</b>	<b>Election results shall be announced at the May Board of Trustees' meeting.</b>

To receive a nomination petition, contact William Legg, Executive Office, at 410-625-5612 or toll free at 1-800-492-5909. ✦





## Retirement Agency Web site is your link to useful information

Whether you are a new member just beginning your career or a retiree enjoying your reward for years of public service, the State Retirement Agency's newly redesigned Web site provides a wealth of useful information on your pension benefits.

The Retirement Agency's Web site, located at [www.sra.state.md.us](http://www.sra.state.md.us), lets users access the system's Annual Financial Report, investment policies, a schedule of meeting dates for the Board of Trustees and biographies of its members, and a roster of the Agency's management personnel.

The Web site also provides separate sections for members and retirees, so you can quickly access the information that pertains to you.

A click on the homepage's "Member" button lets the user access member handbooks, enrollment applications for retirement seminars and the latest newsletters. The Member page also includes a summary of the benefits available to you as an active employee or teacher plus directions for contacting a retirement benefits counselor by phone, E-mail, letter or in person.

Retirees who click on the "Retiree" button are directed to a menu of recent retiree newsletters and a printable version of the Agency's booklet for retirees, "After You Retire." This short booklet, updated to include the most recent changes to pension law, provides answers to the questions asked most often by retirees. In case you need additional assistance, the Retiree page also provides phone numbers and addresses to help you contact a retirement benefits counselor.

Because forms are such an important tool for managing your retirement benefits, both the Member and Retiree sections of the Web site provide access to numerous Retirement Agency forms. Many forms can be printed using your home computer and printer. Members may print the following forms:

- *Designation of Beneficiary* (Form 4)
- *Request to Purchase Previous Service* (Form 26)
- *Claim of Retirement Credit for Active Duty Military Service* (Form 43)
- *Application for an Estimate of Service Retirement Allowance* (Form 9)



A wealth of useful information about your retirement benefits is just a click away on the State Retirement Agency's newly redesigned Web site. Launched in September, the Agency's new Web site features a simplified format for easy navigation and a bright, uncluttered design.

Retirees may wish to print these forms:

- *Electronic Funds Transfer Sign-Up* (Form 85)
- *Retiree Change of Address* (Form 77)
- *Federal and State Tax Withholding Form* (Form 766)
- *Request for Calculation of Joint Survivorship by a Retiree Considering Changing a Beneficiary* (Form 66)

Additional forms not available for printing may be ordered for mail delivery to your home.

To help keep you apprised of the latest announcements concerning your retirement system, the Web site features a "Hot News" button that provides access to recent press releases, current transfer and cost-of-living adjustment rates, and a schedule of when retirement benefits counselors will be visiting your region of Maryland. ✧

**Pension Bulletin** is published by the State Retirement Agency,  
120 East Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202-6700.  
(410) 625-5555 / 1-800-492-5909  
[www.sra.state.md.us](http://www.sra.state.md.us)

December 2003



Printed on recycled paper

Benjamin Robb, Editor