From the Executive Director

Warren J. Schott, CFA

It has been a while since the last Advisor Newsletter, so we have numerous items to update you on at the Pension Fund. The size of the Fund continues to grow and the health continues to get stronger. As of the end of January, the Fund has over $2.3 billion in assets. We generated an investment return of over 13.4% last year and are already up 4.0% this year. The investment portfolio remains very diversified and should continue to provide steady returns in the future.

The Fund recently received our Annual Audit and Actuarial Valuation Report for the year. We are happy to report that the auditors gave the accounting records a clean bill of health and informed the Board that the financial statements accurately reflect the true value of the Pension Fund. This is exactly what I told you last year regarding the Annual Audit, and I am pleased that we are able to report this same information to you again. Believe me when I say the financial statements are not the easiest documents to read, but it is important that they are audited on an annual basis by an independent accounting firm and verified to be an accurate reflection of the value of the Fund.

The annual Actuarial Valuation Report also provided positive results. The Fund was able to improve on last year's strong 90.57% funding level, and we now stand at 91.94% funded. We have also reduced the number of years to pay off our unfunded liability from 9.12 years to 7.12 years. This is very strong relative to our peers and, more importantly, is considered very strong by the Texas State Pension Review Board. As a matter of fact, the PRB has listed the San Antonio Fire & Police Pension Fund as the strongest pension fund in the state of Texas that has assets over $500 million. We are very proud of this, and we consider maintaining this strong funding level as one of our top priorities as your Board and staff.

Along these same lines, on page 8, you will see a press release that was printed in the San Antonio Business Journal regarding the Pension Fund. The press release makes note of the fact that the San Antonio Fire & Police Pension Fund has been nominated by Money Management Intelligence for Small Pension Plan of the Year. Money Management Intelligence is a national magazine focused on the pension industry and is well-respected in the industry. We are one of only three funds nominated by the editors of the magazine. The winner will be announced at an awards ceremony on March 13th. Regardless of the outcome, we are humbled by the nomination.

This is just a reminder that future Board Meetings will be held on the last WEDNESDAY of the month beginning in February 2013; they will no longer be held on Tuesdays. We have made this change in order to accommodate a couple of Board Members that were having issues with the Tuesday meeting date.

On behalf of the Pension Fund, I want to welcome our newest Board Member, Engineer Dean Pearson. Dean represents the active fire members and takes over the position vacated by the retirement of Bart Moczygemba. Dean has jumped right in and has been very eager to get up-to-speed as quickly as possible. We are sorry to report that our good friend and Board Member, Representative Justin Rodriguez, has resigned from the Board. Representative Rodriguez has been a very strong supporter of the Pension Fund and will be missed. We are still waiting on the Mayor to appoint his replacement on the Board.

It is worth mentioning that we now have four former trustees serving in state office: Justin Rodriguez, Philip Cortez, Roland Gutierrez and Lyle Larson. It seems like the Pension Fund is a springboard to bigger and better things.

The COLA has arrived. The cost-of-living adjustment for this year was 1.7% for those members that retired prior to October 1, 1999. If you retired after September 30, 1999, you received 1.3%. We realize this is not as large as some would like, but at least it isn’t a reduction. The increase was included in your January check.

We have another bit of good news. The Pension Fund recently received its Determination Letter from the IRS confirming our “qualified” status as a tax-exempt organization. I think it is fair to say that this letter is probably the most important legal document we possess. This determination allows the members’ contributions to be pre-tax so you don’t have to pay tax on them until you receive them in distributions. In addition, those same contributions are allowed to grow tax free in the Fund until we distribute them from the plan. There are several other benefits in addition to these two, but these are the most important.

Pension Fund Trustee elections are on the horizon. We will be sending a letter to the membership in early March with the voting schedule and candidate filing instructions. The notification will also be included in the Grapevine and Centurion. The term of office begins on June 1, 2013 and expires on May 31, 2017.

We have hired a new investment analyst at the Fund. Will Albright has joined us after graduating from Texas State University with a major in Finance. He is a very bright and knowledgeable individual, and we are lucky to have him. Welcome to the team, Will.

Speaking of Will, you need to make sure you have one: a will and testament, that is. We have had several situations arise recently where the member did not have a will in place. It is very important for you to make sure you have a will in case something unfortunate happens.

We have also put the finishing touches on our newly designed website. The address is www.safppf.org. We have included a “Members-Only” Section to the website. We are encouraging the membership to log-in and register. We are asking that your email account be your log-in so the Pension Fund will be able to email you important information in a timely manner. You will also find that the online calculator has been moved to the “Members-Only” section. Please register and play with the calculator; we think you will be impressed.

I realize this was a lot of information to cover in a short amount of space, but I did not want to leave anything out. On the next several pages, you will receive more information that is important to you on several different subjects. Please take the time to read the information and let us know if you have any questions. We stand ready to serve you.

Attention Members!
Please register @ www.safppf.org
Dear Members,

I’m sure that you are aware that the Texas Legislature is in full swing in Austin. Our Board continues to monitor and act on any pension legislation that gets filed. We are very fortunate to have (former City Councilman) Representative Roland Gutierrez sitting on the Pensions Committee. Representative Gutierrez, during his tenure on City Council, served as a trustee on our Pension Board. The knowledge he gained there will give him valuable insight on this Committee.

Our Board is continuing to educate our local, state, and federal elected officials. We initiated this process over a year ago in an effort to give our leaders the factual information about the advantages of defined benefit pensions, and specifically how well our Fund is doing. We also remind our leaders that many of them will be receiving pension payments in the future from one or more defined benefit plans. In the near future, our Board will be visiting and educating other members of the Pensions Committee.

We have stressed to our leaders the positive economic impact pension benefits give back to the local and state economy. NIRS reported that state and local pension funds in Texas and other states paid a total of $10.2 billion in benefits to Texas residents. Retirees’ expenditures from these benefits supported a total of $20.2 billion in total economic output in the state.

The good news is how well our Fund is performing as mentioned in previous articles. Our success has been noticed at both the state and national level. Several legislators have made comments that our plan is a good model of how to run a successful pension fund. Also in a previous article, you read that our Fund has been nominated for a national award. The other positive news is that, statewide, the majority of pension funds are performing well. We are not California or Illinois, we are Texans, and we do things correctly in this state.

I would like to stress again the importance of all parties to unite as one, who have a vested interest in maintaining our DB plan. Once again, I would encourage everyone to join your respective PACs and contribute according to their wishes. City Council elections will take place in the near future. I would encourage you to look at your PACs’ recommendations and vote accordingly. Please make sure your family and friends get out and vote also. It is imperative to support our current and future leaders who have championed our concerns.

On a side note, I would encourage members to take advantage of our monthly two-hour financial seminars that take place during the first Friday of every month. Several members have attended more than once to get educated and stay informed. They are held at the Pension Office from 10:00 a.m. – noon.

I would also like to use this forum to publicly thank our Executive Director and our entire staff who work tirelessly to serve our membership and assist in making our Fund so successful. In that same vein, I would also like to commend my peers who sit on this Board as trustees, who all take their duties as fiduciaries of the Fund very seriously. As a member of this Fund myself, I’m appreciative of how well both our staff and trustees work together as a solid team for the advancement of our Fund and members.

Despite the fact that our Fund and other funds are doing well, we need to continue to fight to preserve our benefits. Everyone needs to step up both financially and at the voting booth. This fight to preserve what we have will continue throughout this legislative cycle and future sessions.

Once again, if you have any issues, concerns, or rumors that need to be addressed, please do not hesitate to contact any trustee or staff member so we can take care of your needs. Please be careful out there.

God Bless! Jim Smith
One of the functions that I have as Secretary of the Board is to administer the required elections of the active member and retiree representatives by mailing ballots to all eligible members, retirees, or beneficiaries. Only retirees and surviving spouses who are currently receiving benefits from the Fund are eligible to vote for retiree representatives.

We are currently utilizing the services of VR Election Services in accordance with the bylaws of the Pension Fund. VR Election Services performs all election procedures, including ballot design, printing and mailing, telephone and Internet vote collection and receipt of return mail ballots. Mail-in, telephone and Internet tabulation are subject to 100% verification.

If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any trustee position, the Board shall hold a run-off election in which the only candidates are the candidates who received the highest and second-highest number of votes cast. If a candidate for trustee is unopposed in an election, the Board shall certify the candidate as elected to the Board on the executive director’s certification that the candidate is eligible and is unopposed for election.

The established process of electing your next pension board trustee is simple. I encourage you, when you receive your ballot in early April, to make a choice and vote for a candidate. For statistical purposes, on our last election (active fire trustee), there were 1,616 total eligible voters. Of the total of 1,616 eligible voters only 400 votes were cast with 8 re-balloted and 14 undeliverable mail. This means that 24.75 percent of the membership voted for our last active fire election.

As voting members, we have an opportunity to elect a board member whom we believe will carry us forward prudently and protect the benefits that we have worked so hard for. I believe that increased voter turnout will incite discussion amongst the membership as to which candidate will serve best and why. This election, as well as others at all levels, are important to the fundamentals that we stand for. So please, when you receive your ballot in the mail, take the time to use the method that is easiest for you to cast your vote and have a say as to whom you believe will serve you best as pension board trustee for the next 4 years.

The Fire & Police Pension Fund will be holding elections for the following positions: Active Fire Representative; Active Police Representative, and Retired Fire Representative. Term of Office for each position begins June 1, 2013 and expires on May 31, 2017.

**VOTING SCHEDULE:**

- **FILING PROCEDURE**: If you intend to file as a candidate, please file a Letter of Intent at the pension office, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **PENSION OFFICE LOCATION**: 11603 W. Coker Loop, Suite 201
- **ROLL CALL ANNOUNCEMENTS**: MONDAY, MARCH 18 - SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2013
- **CANDIDATE FILING AT PENSION OFFICE**: MONDAY, MARCH 25 - FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2013 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
- **VOTING**: BALLOTS MAILED ON FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2013
- **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF BALLOTS**: RECEIVED BY MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2013
- **BalloTS COUNTED**: TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013
- **RUNOFF ELECTION (IF REQUIRED)**: BALLOTS MAILED ON FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2013
- **RUNOFF DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF BALLOTS**: RECEIVED BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013
- **RUNOFF BALLOTS COUNTED**: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2013
The 2012 calendar year was very good to the membership. The equity market (S&P 500) rallied 16% and the bond market (Barclays Aggregate) ticked up 4%. Additionally, we made some very noteworthy decisions that our peers recognized. Our Fund was nominated for “Small Public Pension Fund of the Year” by Money Management Intelligence and also “European Real Estate Deal of the Year” by PERE. The award ceremony will be held in mid-March, so hopefully we can win. It would be a great accomplishment to be recognized as the best small fund of the year in the entire country.

I also would like to expound on the real estate transaction that was nominated as European deal of the year. This is a deal that we partnered with Palmer Capital to take a publicly listed company private containing quality real estate holdings at a steep discount to the underlying asset value. The strategy was to de-list the publicly traded (UK) real estate management company, distribute the surplus cash balances from bank accounts, and actively manage property in the underlying real estate funds to maximize value and sell the assets. The proforma return for the investment was a 50% return with a 1.5x multiple on investment. To date, we’re slightly above proforma at a 56% net return and a 1.6x multiple of investment based upon pricing received for a number of the assets being marketed for sale. The investment is expected to be fully realized by November 2014.

It is always pleasant to give a report when the general markets were up, and to also talk about successful transactions. It was a challenging journey getting here and next year will likely be clouded with uncertainty in regards to returns. U.S. equity markets lacked conviction towards the end of the year as uncertainty spread amongst the investment community in response to Washington’s actions regarding the ‘fiscal cliff’. The market reacted positively as the government agreed to raise the debt ceiling and further ‘kick the can down the road’. The government passed a tax plan but has yet to focus on the spending issues. Investors may focus on controlling spending in order to get on the proper fiscal path. Since investors are still nervous, any macro hiccup could cause a major pull-back in the market.

We have a lot of uncertainty in the world and every year going forward we will have uncertainty to talk about. The U.S. fiscal cliff, high domestic unemployment, corporate earnings growth deceleration, slowdown in China, and the bouts of financial stress in Europe have been on the minds of investors. However, on the bright side, the housing market is on the rise and deleveraging of households has helped Americans’ pocketbooks.

With everything going on, investing is a challenge. Investing is much tougher today than in past decades. The reason investing is tougher today is not because of all the uncertainty, but because interest rates are so low. The building blocks of returns start with treasuries. Corporate bonds will get a bit of a premium over treasuries for the default risk (+2%) and riskier bonds will get 4-5% over treasuries. Historically, if you did not make money in the equity market for the year you probably made up for it in your bond portfolio. Today, it is really hard to make the returns we did in the past with interest rates so low. You, as members, see it when you go to the bank. I know you are not making much money in your savings account. With interest rates so low, the Pension Fund has increased its investments in alternatives such as real estate, private negotiated debt, and energy.

Hopefully the government can make some positive decisions that will help businesses move forward now that the Presidential election is over. At the end of the day, the markets will be driven by fundamentals of businesses such as earnings, interest rates, and economic growth. If we can get investors some confidence, then we should have another good year. I strongly believe the groundwork we have done as a group, Board and Staff, will lead to an investment portfolio that generates strong risk-adjusted returns in the future.
Another year has gone by, and that means we have just finished another audit season. Once again, we received an unqualified opinion. You might be thinking, if we have $2.3 billion in the bank, couldn’t we afford someone who could give us a qualified opinion. Accountants have to go to college for 5 years taking courses related to their field, then pass an extensive exam, work as an apprentice basically for 2 years and be licensed by the state they practice in just to be considered qualified enough to issue an unqualified opinion. Accountants have a sense of humor. Our accountants are BDO USA (BDO). BDO is a large national firm that has a multinational reach through its membership in BDO International Limited which has a global network of over 1,204 offices in 138 countries. They are a highly respected accounting firm and more than qualified to issue an unqualified report. You probably understand by now that an independent auditors’ report that contains no qualifications is a good thing. Actually, the results of our audit were as good as they can be. Our auditors presented their report at the January meeting of our Board of Trustees. They were pleased with the outcome of the audit and were very complimentary of the staff of the Pension Fund. In a separate document presented to the audit committee, the auditors reported that there were no changes in accounting principles of the Pension Fund that would have a material effect on the financial statements of the Pension Fund. They also reported that there were no material misstatements that needed correcting and no disagreements with the management of the Pension Fund. The auditors continue to rotate their staff so that they get a fresh look at our accounting records each year. The audit report and the financial statements will be included with the Annual Report and posted to the Pension Fund’s website www.safppf.org.

At the January meeting, The Segal Company provided the annual Actuarial Valuation and Review. The actuaries’ report provides information about the funded level and funding progress of the Pension Fund. Our Pension Fund has performed very well, and is financially strong. These results are even better when you consider that the Pension Fund is using more conservative assumptions. The Pension Law that governs our pension, which would be our Plan Document, is very well thought out. The City of San Antonio, the Pension Fund’s law firm, Martin & Drought, and the Pension Fund’s Board of Trustees have worked together constructing a plan providing reasonable benefits that will not become a burden to the taxpayers of San Antonio. Rather than being an example of political largess, the way the Pension Fund is managed highlights the benefits of financial responsibility on the part of City Management. The City of San Antonio is a growing city and will require competent well trained public safety departments as part of the infrastructure necessary to sustain that growth. To that end, the San Antonio Fire and Police Pension Fund will remain a vital tool in attracting and retaining the best people for the job. As the Pension Fund matures, the importance of returns on invested assets becomes much more evident. In that regard, the Board and staff have been working diligently to make sure that the investment portfolio balances the need for returns with the risks involved.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has taken on the task of clarifying the accounting and reporting for public pension plans. In their new “Accounting for Pension Plans Made Easy Manual” formally known as Statements 67 & 68 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, some changes will be made in the way most funds will calculate and report their actuarial liabilities, funded ratios and years to amortize unfunded liabilities. They also address how the plan sponsors, in our case, the City of San Antonio, will report the net pension liability or asset whichever applies. The statements also add to the supplemental information to be included in the notes to the financial statements. These statements may change the perception of the underlying reality, but they will not change the underlying reality. These statements will affect the reports beginning with our fiscal year ending September 30, 2014.

Once again, we appreciate the opportunity to serve the members of the San Antonio Fire and Police Pension Fund.

FROM THE ACCOUNTANT’S DESK...
Mark Gremmer, Deputy Director

Pension Contributions No Longer Considered Part of Net Income

Erik T. Dahler, Staff Attorney

Most of us probably are aware that child support obligations are based on net income available to the non-custodial parent. Those of us who have children and have been divorced are probably acutely aware of this, having most likely been involved in the child support calculation process ourselves.

The way child support is calculated: net income is first determined and then the courts will typically apply a formula of 20% of net income for one child and an additional 5% for each additional child. Of course, the courts are not absolutely bound by this formula and may take into account other factors in determining whether application of the formula would be unjust (but more often than not, the courts simply apply this formula).

Social security payments, federal income tax payments, union dues and expenses for the cost of health insurance are deducted from total income (which includes pretty much all income from any source) to arrive at a net income figure for child support calculation purposes. Makes sense, right? But for those of us who don’t participate in social security, doesn’t this calculation reflect more income than we really have, because we don’t actually receive the amount contributed toward our pension although it is treated as income? Yes. In fact, without the substantial deduction others receive for social security contributions, net income is unfairly and inaccurately inflated.

Apparently the Texas Legislature realized this inequity and during the 81st Legislative Session, passed SB 1751 to recognize member contributions as a valid deduction for calculation of net income for child support purposes.

So, in effect, once the change in law goes into effect on September 1, 2012, member contributions may be deducted from total income just as social security payments are for those participating in social security.

According to the author of SB 1751, Senator Carlos Uresti of San Antonio, the recognition of member contributions is overdue. He adds: “hardworking, dedicated members of police, emergency medical and firefighting forces should not be treated differently than others, for computation of child support obligations. The change in the law brought about by the passage of SB 1751 acknowledges the unique circumstances of public safety employees who do not participate in social security and places them on equal footing with those who do, for computation of child support obligations.”

But changes in existing child support obligations are not automatic. If you are already paying or receiving child support, the support obligation would have to be modified by court order before any change in child support payments could take effect. See your legal counsel for more information about modification. Otherwise, if you are currently considering or pursuing divorce and you have children, keep in mind this change in the law and make sure your divorce decree (including specifically, your child support obligation, if any) tracks this provision.

The Fund staff wishes to express appreciation for active fire Trustee Dean R. Pearson, having suggested this article. If you have any suggestions for future articles, please let us know!
We have received questions on this topic recently and unfortunately it does arise. The benefits paid when an active member dies depend on whether or not the death is in the line of duty and whether or not the member has beneficiaries. A beneficiary is a surviving spouse, child under 18 years of age, or a disabled and wholly dependent child 18 years of age or older. Pension fund beneficiaries are determined by pension law. They are not designated by the member.

If a member dies in the line of duty and has one or more beneficiaries, the benefit is a monthly annuity of 100% of the member’s salary. In addition, this monthly annuity is not subject to federal income tax. If the member leaves a surviving spouse and children, the benefit is split 75% to the surviving spouse and 25% to the child or children. Benefits paid to a minor child cease at age 18 unless the child is disabled and wholly dependent. When all children are no longer eligible for benefits, the surviving spouse then receives 100% of the benefit. The surviving spouse receives this benefit until death.

If an active member dies in the line of duty leaving no beneficiary, a lump sum payment is made to the estate of the member. The lump sum amount is the member’s average annual salary multiplied by the vesting percentage based on service credit multiplied by 10. There is no minimum vesting percentage used in this calculation. The only minimum is that the estate will receive at least a refund of the member’s contributions.

If an active member leaves no beneficiary in a non-line of duty death, a lump sum payment is made to the estate of the member. The calculation is the same as in the case of a line of duty death. The lump sum amount is the member’s average annual salary multiplied by the vesting percentage based on service credit multiplied by 10. There is no minimum vesting percentage used in this calculation. The only minimum is that the estate will receive at least a refund of the member’s contributions.

An example will show how different the benefit can be depending on the existence of beneficiaries. A member has one year of service credit in the Pension Fund, a current annual salary of $48,000, and an average annual salary of $47,000. If a member dies in the line of duty leaving a surviving spouse only, the surviving spouse will receive a monthly annuity of $4,000 ($48,000 / 12 months) for life. If a member dies in the line of duty leaving no beneficiary, the estate will receive a one-time lump sum payment of $10,575 ($47,000 X 2.25% X 10).

The monthly annuity payments are made to surviving spouses and children. If no beneficiary, the lump sum payment is made to the estate. You need to have a current Will so the estate will distribute the lump sum payment as well as other estate assets as you wish.

As you can see, the benefits vary greatly depending on type of death, existence of beneficiaries, and service credit and salary of the member. It is important that you understand the benefits in your particular situation when planning for the financial security of your family and loved ones.

An example will show how different the benefit can be depending on the existence of beneficiaries. A member has one year of service credit in the Pension Fund, a current annual salary of $48,000, and an average annual salary of $47,000. If a member dies in the line of duty leaving a surviving spouse only, the surviving spouse will receive a monthly annuity of $4,000 ($48,000 / 12 months) for life. If a member dies in the line of duty leaving no beneficiary, the estate will receive a one-time lump sum payment of $10,575 ($47,000 X 2.25% X 10).

If an active member’s death is not in the line of duty and the member leaves one or more beneficiaries, the benefit is a monthly annuity equal to the member’s average monthly salary multiplied by the greater of 50% or the member’s vesting percentage (not to exceed 80%). If a member has 21 years or less of service credit, the percentage used in the calculation is 50%. If a member has 27 years or more of service credit, the percentage used in the calculation is 80%. If a member has between 21 and 27 years of service credit, the vesting percentage of the member is used. If the member leaves a surviving spouse and children, the benefit is split 75% to the surviving spouse and 25% to the child or children. The rules concerning this split are the same as described for line of duty death.

If the member was vested, the surviving spouse may elect a backDROP lump sum payment and a reduced monthly annuity. This option is not available in a line of duty death.

**PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINAR**

**Friday, May 3, 2013**

**City Council Chambers**
**Municipal Plaza Building**

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Seminar Topics:**
- Review of Benefits
- Legal
- Deferred Compensation
- Need for Financial Planning
- Tax Implications @ Retirement
- Psychological
- Medical Insurance
- Health & Wellness

Register Now by calling the Pension Fund @ (210) 534-3262.

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE!**

(Spouses Welcome)
January 2012 – Police
Yolanda Casas – 31 years
Philip M. Kory, Jr. – 33 years
Jesus Martinez – 25 years
Gary E. McMaster – 32 years
Roberto Romero – 30 years
Essmereldido Tamez – 26 years
Holly M. Vizcarrondo – 25 years
Lee Charles Tappan – 24 years
Robert T. Bettis – 30 years

January 2012 – Fire
Walter D. Blohm – 37 years
Larry F. Gonzales – 32 years
Gregory W. Henriksen – 31 years
Jim L. Jimenez – 34 years
Raymond B. Leal, Jr. – 34 years
Bar M. Moczygemba – 37 years
William M. Paviska, Jr. – 36 years
Anthony P. Stinson – 36 years
Clayton L. Tedford, Jr. – 37 years
Gerardo Cantu, Jr. – 35 years
Richard G. Garcia – 32 years
James D. Campbell – 30 years
Carlos C. Cortez – 30 years

February 2012 – Police
Joseph Graham, III – 27 years
Jesus B. Orta – 29 years
Eric D. Skuey – 22 years
Thomas J. Fulcher – 30 years
Joseph E. Myers – 20 years

February 2012 – Fire
Stephen Acquart – 38 years

March 2012 – Police
John Langerlaan, III – 27 years
Ray A. Torres – 30 years

April 2012 – Police
David Ray Brosh – 25 years
Louis H. Esquivel – 26 years
Kevin D. Potts – 28 years
William H. Hixon – 28 years
Cozette Bustamante – 32 years

April 2012 – Fire
William C. Henry – 23 years
Paul Rabago, Jr. – 30 years
George L. Rodriguez – 23 years
Jeffery J. Zavala – 35 years
Weldon E. Lister – 26 years

May 2012 – Police
Diana O. Landgraf – 29 years
Gilbert D. Owen – 29 years
Samuel D. Vito – 30 years

May 2012 – Fire
John Lujan, III – 23 years
Richard V. Mazuca – 34 years

June 2012 – Police
David C. Wessels – 25 years
Philip Rodriguez, Jr. – 37 years

June 2012 – Fire
James Bennett, II – 31 years
Robert R. Jasso – 34 years

July 2012 – Police
Leo Ariske – 27 years
Anthony E. Linson – 23 years

July 2012 – Fire
Norbert F. Buys, Jr. – 36 years
Larry B. Casas – 32 years
Edward G. Folks – 35 years
Joseph A. Navarro – 32 years
Larry G. Schultz – 38 years
Fidencio Valadez, Jr. – 31 years
Gregory Todd Bieller – 24 years
Clyde J. Grams – 32 years

August 2012 – Police
Robert Handowski – 24 years

September 2012 – Police
Reginald Applewhite – 28 years
Donna Willborn – 27 years
Donald M. Kelley – 24 years

September 2012 – Fire
Reuban E. Thier, Jr. – 23 years
Opal J. Trevino – 28 years
Ricky Neal Marbach – 37 years

October 2012 – Police
Daniel M. Ramirez – 26 years
Maria Cadena-May – 26 years

November 2012 – Police
Raymond J. Dustin – 30 years

November 2012 – Fire
Raymond M. Delgado – 32 years
Frank M. Vargas – 32 years

December 2012 – Police
Robert R. Anderson – 35 years
Sherry L. Caruso – 31 years
Jim Edward Falks – 38 years
Leslie W. Spiess – 34 years
Shawn Conmmerford – 26 years

December 2012 – Fire
Nathaniel Batson – 37 years
Chester O. Pollard – 39 years

IN MEMORIAM

As this is the first newsletter of the New Year, we would like to take this opportunity to honor the memory of those active and retired police officers and fire fighters who passed away in 2012. We will continue to be grateful for their past service and sacrifice.

Police
Dave W. Alsbury
Terry R. Bailey
Sidney Billings
Herbert J. Bodet
Ray Lee Byler, Jr.
Paul E. Check
Cas Wayne Donnell
C. T. Flanigan
Antonio G. Flores
Mary H. Gillespie
George L. Lockamy
Troy E. Marek
Marselo O. Molina
Edrees Mukhtar
Patrick A. Nichols
Danny Lee Pierdolla
Ted Arthur Prosser, Jr.
Albert L. Teel
Michael Wayne Tucker
Fidel B. Vega
James Young
Hubert Zulaica

Date of Death
April 27, 2012
February 20, 2012
March 12, 2012
April 26, 2012
March 26, 2012
August 16, 2012
April 12, 2012
May 13, 2012
February 4, 2012
September 8, 2012
December 21, 2012
January 10, 2012
May 17, 2012
December 29, 2012
May 2, 2012
June 13, 2012
May 24, 2012
December 18, 2012
November 25, 2012
February 27, 2012
May 24, 2012
March 28, 2012

Fire
Jose M. Arredondo
Clinton L. Briggs
Ernest R. Charles
Ramon G. Escobedo
Robert Alex Forsen
Arthur L. Herrera
Ernest Koontz
Alvino Machado
Rogelio Martinez
Karl B. Kentwich
Richard B. Olmo
Leroy Pearson
Robert D. Robinson, Sr.
Cecilio C. Rodriguez, Jr.
Fred Salinas
Robert Brian Scott
Leslie L. Teague, Jr.
Matthew Whitley
Leonard R. Willis
Carl B. Woomer

Date of Death
March 16, 2012
September 11, 2012
December 14, 2012
February 6, 2012
August 8, 2012
May 24, 2012
March 6, 2012
March 8, 2012
December 24, 2012
April 15, 2012
July 3, 2012
February 28, 2012
October 3, 2012
September 26, 2012
July 27, 2012
July 19, 2012
December 31, 2012
December 28, 2012
March 17, 2012
August 20, 2012
SAN ANTONIO – The Fire and Police Pension Fund of San Antonio, which provides retirement security for approximately 6,000 firefighters, police officers and their families, has been nominated for Small Public Plan of the Year in Money Management Intelligence’s 12th Annual Public Pension Fund Awards. The $2.3 billion fund is one of three finalists nationwide for the award.

Nominees and winners for these awards are selected by the editors of Institutional Investor’s Money Management Intelligence (MMI) – a leading provider of news, data and information covering the business of U.S. pension fund investing. Following a public call for nominations, the editors and reporters of MMI interviewed leaders from across the public fund investing community, solicited input from subscribers and other industry professionals and pulled from their own market intelligence when making their selections. The Fund’s nomination is an honor that reflects industry-wide recognition of the plan’s accomplishments during the past year.

According to MMI, the San Antonio Fire and Police Pension Fund’s 90% funding ratio coupled with a balanced portfolio and diversification of private equity commitments, secured its high-ranking amongst its peers.

“We are honored to have been recognized for the strength, stability and conservative investment strategies of this Fund,” Shawn Ury, chairman of the board of the Fire and Police Pension Fund of San Antonio said. “At a time when pension funds across the country are experiencing difficulties, the Fire and Police Pension Fund of San Antonio continues to be well-managed and fiscally sound by all industry standards.”

The Fire and Police Pension Fund of San Antonio is a defined benefit pension fund, which guarantees retirement, death and disability benefits based upon the member’s earning history and length of service to the City of San Antonio – even during times of economic volatility.

Money Management Intelligence will honor the nominees and announce the award winners at a ceremony on Wednesday, March 13. For more information on the nominees, please visit: