

Chattanooga Fire & Police Pension Fund

Serving Those That
Serve Our Community

December
2019



Letter from the Board President

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone has had a blessed holiday season!

The Social Security Administration Limited Access Death Master File, utilized by financial and governmental institutions and previously the leading source of death information, no longer contains state death records, and is therefore no longer a comprehensive source of death data. In addition, it is estimated that nearly 5% of all death go unreported to Social Security Administration each year. These issues have resulted in increased pension and social security overpayments (fraud) across the country. The Fund itself recently overpaid benefits for a deceased participant that had been reported to Social Security Administration, yet was not found in the Death Master File by multiple financial institutions. Thankfully the Fund was able to recover those funds once it was reported to the Fund after nearly ten years.

In an effort to safeguard the assets of the Chattanooga Fire and Police Pension Fund ("the Fund") against potential fraud, the Board will now require all participants receiving monthly pension payments to acknowledge to the Board that they are still alive in order to continue to receive pension payments.

Proof of Life Affidavits and additional information will be mailed to affected participants no later than March 1, 2020. **All participants receiving monthly pension payments shall complete and return the Proof of Life Affidavit provided by the Board no later than April 30, 2020.**

Beginning in 2022, participants will be required to submit the Proof of Life Affidavit on a biennial basis according to the schedule below:

Which Participants Are Affected	Beginning Date	Due Date
All Participants Who Retired from the Fire Department	March 1, 2022 and Biennial thereafter	April 30, 2022 and Biennial thereafter
All Participants Who Retired from the Police Department	March 1, 2023 and Biennial thereafter	April 30, 2023 and Biennial thereafter

Proof of Life Affidavits may only be witnessed by a Notary Public, member of the Fund staff, or a current trustee of the Board. Participants must also provide a valid photo I.D. to the authorized witness, or otherwise comply with applicable law regarding notary acknowledgements. There are numerous options available to members to have their affidavits notarized for free if they are not witnessed by Fund staff or a trustee of the Board. The Fund will be happy to help those who have requested assistance in completing the affidavits.

If a participant fails to provide the required Proof of Life Affidavit to the Fund office by the deadline, the Fund may cease subsequent benefit payments until such affidavit has been provided to the Fund. Please be aware that the cessation or suspension of benefit payments may result in deductions such as health insurance, credit union, or other important deductions from being paid.

I would also like to remind participants that the 2020 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) will be implemented with the January 2020 monthly benefit as well. The COLA will be calculated as an average increase of 1.5% across all participants who are eligible to receive a COLA effective January 1, 2020. The percentage increase will be higher for those participants whose monthly benefit is lower than average, while the percentage increase will be lower for those participants whose monthly benefit is higher than average. Please refer to the table below if you are eligible to receive a COLA for 2020:

# Participants	% of COLA	Range of Dollar Amount of COLA	2019 Monthly Benefit Range that will receive this COLA
236	2%	\$14.26 to \$50.44	Those making \$2,522.37 and below
493	Between 1% and 2%	\$50.44	Those making between \$2,522.37 and \$5,075.46
17	1%	\$50.75 to \$82.73	\$5,075.46 and above

Please keep in mind that the COLA is the increase in your monthly benefit to compensate for an increase in the cost of living; such as increases in taxes and healthcare premiums. Again, tax tables will likely change in January, as will the medical and dental premiums for those that are Medicare eligible. When looking at your monthly advice statements to see the increase in your monthly benefit, please refer to the gross benefit amount, not the net.

As a reminder, monthly pension benefits are payable effective the 15th of each month. U.S. Bank transfers funds two calendar days prior to the effective date of the deposit (industry standard) to ensure payments are received timely by receiving banks. However, if the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday, it is up to the participant’s bank as to when they will credit the participant’s account. We recognize in all likelihood that some banks, depending on their schedule, will credit accounts on the 15th regardless of the day, however other banks will credit participant accounts the following business day. Please check with your financial institution regarding their policy on the release of funds from incoming deposits. There are four months next year where the 15th fall on a weekend:

- Saturday, February 15, 2020 – deposits may occur as late as February 18, 2020
- Sunday, March 15, 2020 – deposits may occur as late as March 16, 2020
- Saturday, August 15, 2020 – deposits may occur as late as August 17, 2020
- Sunday, November 15, 2020 – deposits may occur as late November 16, 2020

Sincerely,

Charles Thomason
Board President

LEOSA TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

If you are interested in receiving notifications regarding LEOSA training and qualification, please contact Sergeant Michael Wenger with the Police Training Division at mwenger@chattanooga.gov or (423) 643-5427. Due to the Fund’s Privacy Policy, we are unable to provide member’s contact information to Sergeant Wenger.

Our Condolences to those who have lost Family & Friends

Carole Yvonne Maffett, spouse of retired Assistant Police Chief **Stanley C. Maffett**, passed away on September 17, 2019. She is also survived by her sons **Curtis (Teyah) Jones, Jr.**, **Greg Jones** and **Terry Jones, Sr.**

Retired Fire Captain **Michael S. Kennedy, Sr.** passed away on October 25, 2019. He is survived by his wife **Ann Kennedy** and sons **Michael (Jessica) Kennedy, Jr** and **Eric (Raven) Kennedy**.

Police Sergeant **Joseph "Joe" Brian Montijo** passed away on November 1, 2019. He is survived by his wife **Alicia Jeffrey Montijo** and children **Jenna (Hunter) Montijo Bishop** and **Anthony Joseph "AJ" Montijo**.

Mozelle M. Payne, surviving spouse of retired Firefighter **Robert S. Payne**, passed away on November 8, 2019. She is survived by her children **Cheryl Payne** and **Phil Payne**.

Retired Fire Captain **Donald "Donnie" L. Davis** passed away on November 15, 2019. He is survived by his wife **Eloise Davis**.

Retired Firefighter **Harry "Butch" M. Barnes** passed away on December 1, 2019. He is survived by his wife **Shelli Barnes** and children **Chris Barnes** and **April Barnes Stafford**.

Polly S. Addison, surviving spouse of retired Fire Engineer **Kenneth Addison**, passed away on December 5, 2019. She is survived by her two sons **Mark** and **John Schmidt**.

Retired Fire Captain **Paul T. Rouse** passed away on December 15, 2019. He is survived by his wife **Phyllis Rouse** and his sons **John (Glenda) Rouse** and active Firefighter Senior **Scott Rouse**.

Retired Police Sergeant **Lee "Sonny" Mosley, Jr.** passed away on December 20, 2019. He is survived by his children **Karitsa (William) Jones**, **Yolanda (Edward) Wynn**, **Serena (Tidaro) Dunlap** and **Corey (Maiya) Mosley**.

Congratulations New Retirees

Fire Captain **Larry Timothy Zink** retired on November 22, 2019 with 28 years of service.

Firefighter Senior **Scotty M. Hudson** retired on December 19, 2019 with 26 years of service.

Fire Captain **Vance L. Woodward** retired on December 19, 2019 with 26 years of service.

Board Members:

Charlie Thomason President

Joe Shaw Vice President

Nathan Vaughn Secretary

Britt Bradshaw

Phillip McClain

Kelly Simmons

Chris Hopkins

Fund Administrator:

Katrina Abbott

Deputy Administrator:

Christina Culpepper

Administrative Assistant:

Doug Kelley

Board Attorney:

William E. Robinson

**Chattanooga Fire & Police
Pension Fund
6009 John Douglass Drive
Chattanooga, TN 37421**



423-893-0500

1-800-881-9022

Fax: 423-893-7769

www.cfppf.org

Fire and Police Outing Club Pan Gap

As of **January 2020** we will transition to a new automated entry gate at the Pan Gap Road property. You will need a **RFID "tag" sticker** to place on the front windshield of members vehicle. Members will need the **new RFID tag** to gain access to the property as the previous padlock/key access **will no longer be in use**. All current members gate keys are to be returned when you pickup your **new RFID tag**.

Every Chattanooga Fire and Police retiree (excludes beneficiaries) that is a recipient of the Fire and Police Pension Fund is given a lifetime membership to the Fire and Police Outing Club at 760 Pan Gap Road for a one-time fee of **\$50**.

For more information about the property or gaining access, please contact the following:

President

Jake Case (423) 902-9558

Secretary/Treasurer

James Palmer (423) 718-2930

fpocpangap@gmail.com

www.pangap.org