

POLICE AND FIRE PENSION FUND

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Firefighters and Police Officers
From: John Keane *John Keane*
Executive Director - Administrator
Subject: Update on Revisions to Chapters 175 & 185 of the Florida Statutes
Date: August 5, 2009

What the Legislature did in Chapter 2009-97, Laws of Florida (SB 538)

The 2009 Session of the Florida Legislature enacted Senate Bill 538, as amended, relating to the Chapter 175 and 185 of the Florida Statutes. These chapters generally provide oversight and direction in the operation of the Pension Fund. The following section, 3 for Fire Fighters and 9 for Police Officers is of great interest to our Members.

Sections 3 and 9. Amend ss. 175.032(4)(c), and 185.02(5)(c), to expand the definition of “credited service” to allow, but not require, municipalities and districts the option to allow for the purchase of prior service for federal, other state, or county service, as long as the member can provide proof that it was equivalent service. Additionally, the term “firefighter” is amended to match language found in the definition of “police officer” indicating that supervisory and command personnel are to be included. Since all firefighters are currently included, including supervisory and command personnel is merely a clarification and not a change in the existing law.

How does this change impact our Plan?

The legislation authorizes, but does not require the City to amend the Pension Plan to allow for the purchase of prior service for federal, other state, or county service.

How does this change impact our Members?

No change at the present time. Any changes in the Pension Plan must be approved by the City Council.

We will keep you informed of additional developments.