

Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund

140 East Town Street / Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164 / Tel. (614) 228-2975 / www.op-f.org

January 25, 2019

Brothers and Sisters,

First, I would like to thank the members who took the time and drove to Columbus in bad weather to attend this month's meeting. Though I was disappointed with some for the lack of decorum displayed, all of your comments were heard and received and your questions will be addressed and posted on the website as stated at the meeting.

For those members who signed the petition calling for John Gallagher's resignation, know that Mr. Gallagher serves at the direction and discretion of the board and he has our confidence. Do not blame him for doing his job. That is like blaming the deck hands for following orders from the Chief. John has spent his life and career securing and defending public safety pensions and benefits. We are lucky to have him. He has worked tirelessly on these health care issues in order to assist members for as long as possible. In fact, calls for the resignation of Board members, officers of the unions, or anyone who has had to make the tough choices to preserve the health care trust are uncalled for. Such action will not put one more dollar in the health care fund, lower the cost of prescription medication or halt the rise in price for in-patient care.

I am sure I will be criticized, taken out of context and/or negatively commented upon. However, I can only tell you the truth:

- Of the roughly 26, 500 eligible retirees, almost 23,000 members are enrolled
- 90% on the Medicare side, 70% Pre-Medicare -exceeding projected goals
- Claims began being paid on New Year's day and to date over 2.6 million dollars have been paid out

This change was made to benefit as many members as we can, for as long as we can. With no change, everyone would be out in the market with no support in 6 or 7 years. The Board did and is currently pursuing ideas and suggestions that will ease members' burdens. Please stay engaged and involved on the developments in health care; you have our continued support even if we do not have yours.



Timothy Patton, Chair
Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund
cc: OP&F Board of Trustees