

August 26, 2008

In addition to the benefits granted to members and spouses each month, the Secretary will also be presenting, for informational purposes only, items of interest that may affect our members.

Questions regarding any member's specific situation should be addressed directly to the Fund Office.

MONTHLY NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE FUND SECRETARY

PARTICIPANT MAILING

Annual Reports, Active, Disabled and Retiree information verification sheets, along with contribution statements for active and disabled members were recently mailed out to participants. Many of our participants call shortly after receiving the information sheet to update their files. We are very pleased that the process that we put in place has helped our participants stay current. However, everyone should understand that this process results in the call volume to the Fund to increase dramatically. Be assured that the Fund staff is making every effort to promptly assist you in processing any changes. Please show some patience as this is a very busy time.

Additionally, for those that have called, please be advised that you may need to call other organizations with these changes as we do not share your personal information. I have included a list of other organizations that you may need to notify with the same changes you have made with the Fund.

CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME vs. CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

CFD & CPD vs. Chicago Blackhawks softball game benefiting Chicago Fire Department and Police Department Charities.

As you are aware, the softball game will be held at Standard Bank Field in Crestwood on September 14, 2008. There is a limited supply of tickets available. While you can purchase tickets through those whose names are on the poster, you may also purchase tickets at the following locations:

Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2	440 W. 43 rd Street	Chicago
Chicago Fireman's Association Credit Union	2453 S. Archer Ave.	Chicago

Chicago Firefighters Credit Union
Chicago Fire Officers Credit Union
Standard Bank Field

6230 S. Central Ave. Chicago
10231 S. Western Ave. Chicago
14011 S. Kenton Ave. Crestwood

FAMILY STATUS INFORMATION

When fireman are first hired by the City of Chicago and go through the academy, they are inundated with paperwork to register for many benefit options. After completing an exercise to verify the family status and beneficiaries of our participants, it was discovered that at least 20% had not looked at this paperwork since initially completing these applications at the academy, and needed to make updates. The most common of which has been the beneficiaries on the death benefit directive.

Given the feedback from this exercise, I would advise all members to verify your beneficiary information at any company with which you may have life insurance through, especially those with which you may have elected for while as a candidate at the fire academy and may have possibly even forgotten about.

The companies you should contact are:

Chicago Fighters Union Local No. 2
(773) 536-0450
www.iaff-local2.org

\$1,000.00 payable upon any manner of death to all active and retired members of Local 2 in good standing

Prudential Insurance
(800) 778-3827
www.prudential.com

- Up to \$25,000 per labor contract with the City
- \$5,000 per labor contract with the City for accidental death & dismemberment
- Optional Insurance for multiple of annual salary
(These policies are for any manner of death for all sworn active and disabled members)

Met Life
(800) 634-5007
www.metlife.com

Optional Universal whole life insurance

Retired Firemen's Association & Mutual Aid
(312) 427-7111

Optional Life Insurance payable to all participants

Monumental Life
(800) 638-3080
www.monlife.com

Optional term and whole life insurance

You may also want to contact any of the credit unions that you belong to. The numbers of the credit unions are:

Chicago Firefighters Credit Union (773) 581-5253	Beneficiaries listed on accounts
Chicago Fireman's Assoc. Credit Union (312) 791-0834	Beneficiaries listed on accounts
Chicago Officer's Assoc. Credit Union (312) 226-6310	Beneficiaries listed on accounts

All participants should also check with Nationwide, the deferred compensation program, to verify personal information with them. You can contact Nationwide at (312) 443-1975.

Upon completing this inventory, all members should keep this information in a safe place where those that are handling your affairs can find it and contact the necessary offices.

Remember, it is up to you to verify your personal information with each and every organization/company individually. Just because you change your information with the Fire Department and the City of Chicago's Benefits Management Office, don't expect that information to be filtered through the fire department to any other organization.

IN MEMORY OF BILLY JOE WILKINSON

Many of you remember Bill Wilkinson who entered the Chicago Fire Department on 09/19/1966 who rose through the ranks of the Chicago Fire Department and retired as a battalion chief November 29, 2001. Bill recently passed away July 27, 2008 succumbing to his hard fought battle with cancer. Bill was a tireless advocate for firemen and their families, regularly attending union meetings, obtaining a law degree and serving 3 terms as a Trustee on Firemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund from December 1993 until he retired. In attending Bill's wake, I happened to come across a letter written by Bill to the Sun Times many years ago. It was truly enlightening and with Bill's wife Donna's permission I have attached a copy for everyone to read. It speaks volumes about who Bill was, what he stood for, and encompasses the sacrifice and spirit of many who were the stewards of this great department before us.