

RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION

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Message from the President-APRIL 2009

We start this letter on a very sad note. I must inform all Members and Retirees that on April 11, 2009, James R. Hudson, our Treasurer, passed away due to cancer. JK fought his toughest fight but in the end the cancer prevailed. JK leaves behind his wife Naimie, daughters Heidi Hladson-Riordan and Erika Mondel, grandchildren Ashley and Jacob Mordot, his sisters Marjorie Stranger and Carolyn Anderson. JK has many nieces and nephews as well. He also has many friends in the active and retired fire services. We celebrated his LIFE April 16, 2009 at the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, Jarrick Hall. We will all miss JK but we should remember that he is no longer in pain or suffering and he is surely in a better place.

As our April 23rd. quarterly membership meeting draws near many think that there is not much going on. Far from true. As you all know, the Parker lawsuit about the 2004 13th. Check is in full swing. The question for Retirees is whether to "OPT-OUT" or "OPT-IN." Remember, is you have decided to stay in the Class, you do not have to do anything. You are in. But, if you want to "OPT-OUT," you must get your form filled out and returned to the pension office no later than May 15th, 2009. By now, all of our current members, recent members and contributors in the Legal Defense Fund should have received the letter from Attorney Jim Lau. We asked him to research the opt-in / opt-out question so that you members can make an educated decision on what to do. The decision is totally up to you.

Many of our members wonder if Atty. Wayne Thomas will be paid from the interest proceeds that should be paid to Retirees. The answer is in the hands of Judge Nielson. He holds the cards. We expect the court hearing to be held in late June or early July. In reality, this is only a guess and the date could change depending on several factors. So, we all wait in the dark like a bunch of mushrooms.

Two important announcements:

At our meeting April 23rd., Pension Chairman Patrick Lynch said he would be there to answer questions from the membership. If you have questions, come to the meeting and ask Patrick. The next thing of interest is that Atty. Wayne Thomas has agreed to talk to the members at our Retirees Luncheon at the Golden Corral on Monday, April 27th at 11 am. So, this gives you two opportunities to ask questions and get the answers. As a Retiree, you are a member of the Class and Judge Nielson has ruled that Atty. Thomas represents you in this matter.

If Atty. Thomas is our attorney, I have questions for him. As our attorney he will be required to give us answers to our questions. You need to make plans to be there. Put this date on your calendar today. There are a lot of things moving at this time. To be informed you should be at the meeting and the luncheon. If you are too busy to attend then you can't complain if things don't go your way. Get involved and have your say. See you all then.

Larry A. Vincent, President

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