

At Your SERVICE

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM *November 2019*

OCERS 75th Anniversary is Coming January 2020 **OCERS members make a difference**

*B*ecause of you, OCERS has been serving members for almost 75 years. Beyond OCERS' central focus on administering the retirement system, managing a \$16.7 billion investment portfolio and ensuring the payment of benefits to members, our staff is committed to delivering exceptional service in an accurate, courteous, prompt and professional manner.

OCERS' origins date back to the fall of 1944 when the Orange County Board of Supervisors called for the submission of a proposition to the people of Orange County. This proposition requested that the County accept the provisions of the County Employees Retirement Act of 1937. This proposition was approved by a majority of voters at the November 7, 1944 General Election, and as a result, OCERS was officially established on January 1, 1945.

Upon OCERS' creation, a Retirement Board consisting of five members (the County Treasurer, two active elected members, and two qualified electors of the County) was established to govern the plan.

Today, there are nine Retirement Board members and an alternate. OCERS provides retirement, death, disability, and cost-of-living benefits to employees of



the County and certain districts. OCERS' membership has increased from fewer than 1,000 members in 1945 to more than 27,000 active and deferred members and more than 17,000 payees (retired members and beneficiaries). We are here to serve more than 45,600 members in all.

OCERS continues to strive to provide all of our members with resources and services to assist them during their years as an active member as well as when they move into retirement. Throughout 2020, issues of *At Your Service* as well as OCERS' official website, social media sites and digital signage at our office will showcase OCERS' 75th Anniversary as well as the contributions of members who benefit from the retirement system.



Find it online!

All active and deferred members should attend our Pre-Retirement Sessions. Dates and times are posted online. Visit www.OCERS.org and sign up through the link from our home page.



Members of the Board of Retirement

Charles E. Packard, Chair
Roger Hilton, Vice Chair
Russell Baldwin
David Ball
Shawn Dewane
Frank Eley
Shari L. Freidenrich, CPA
Wayne Lindholm
Chris Prevatt
Jeremy Vallone

Chief Executive Officer
Steve J. Delaney

Chief Investment Officer
Molly A. Murphy, CFA

**Assistant Chief Executive Officer,
External Operations**
Suzanne Jenike

**Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Finance
and Internal Operations**
Brenda Shott, CPA

General Counsel
Gina Ratto

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Comments and suggestions should be directed to:
Communication@ocers.org

Board of Retirement and Committee Meet-
ings and Agendas can be found online at
www.ocers.org

This newsletter is intended to provide you with
general information. It does not constitute legal
advice, and OCERS cannot provide legal advice
to members. If there are any discrepancies be-
tween the information in this newsletter and the
law, the law will prevail. Should you have legal
questions, you are advised to consult an attorney.

Retiree Medical Open Enrollment is Here

*R*etiree Medical Open Enrollment is upon us! The Annual County of Orange Benefits Open Enrollment is going on now through November 15, 2019.

You were sent detailed information before Open Enrollment from the County and from the Benefits Center to your current mailing address on file. If you experience a change in address, please report that change right away.



You will need to report the change directly to the Benefits Center, OCERS and any other organization you are affiliated with. We strongly encourage you to thoroughly review all materials sent

from the County and the Benefits Center as soon as you receive them to ensure you have the most current information necessary to make the best decisions regarding health plan choices for you and your family for plan year 2020.

During Open Enrollment, the County of Orange and the Benefits Center will be available to support and assist you with your questions and concerns. During Open Enrollment, you can attend an in-person Open Enrollment meeting, or access a recorded Webinar at any time to get answers to your questions. Be sure to read all Open Enrollment materials carefully. For information about your current benefits or to verify the Benefits Center has your current mailing address, please call the Benefits Center toll-free at 1.800.858.7266. Benefits Specialists are available Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Pacific Time, except holidays. If you need assistance in another language, Benefits Specialists can connect you with a translation service at no cost to you.

For TTY communication services for the hearing impaired, call toll-free at **1.866.367.0767**.

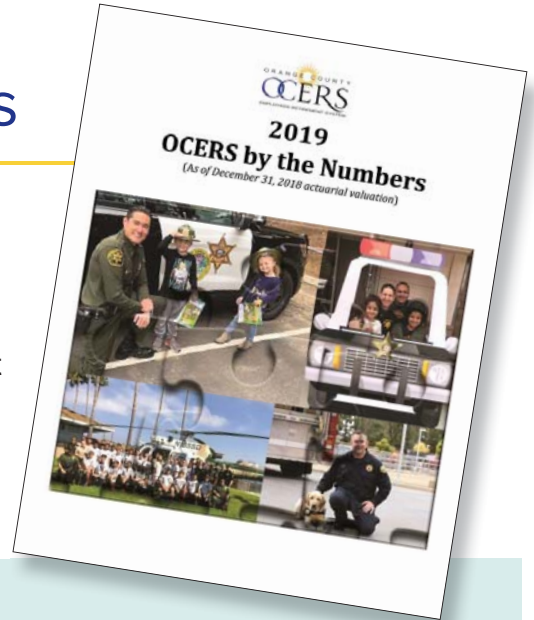
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Get A Detailed Look: OCERS is all about the Numbers

In August 19, 2019 the OCERS Board of Retirement approved the 2019 edition of *OCERS by the Numbers*. This publication compliments the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

OCERS by the Numbers is anchored by graphs and charts that provide a clear view of OCERS' demographics, benefit payments and diversified investment portfolio.

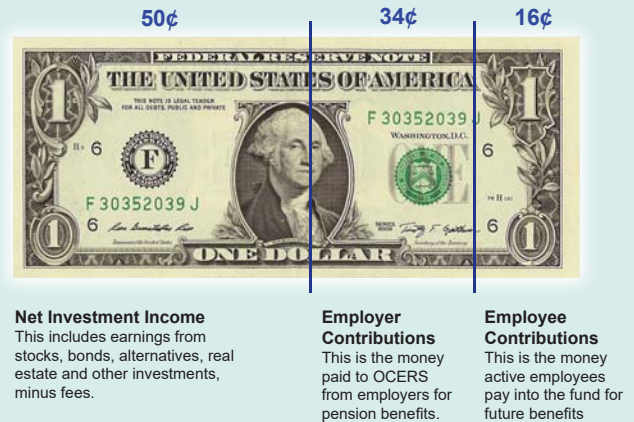


Highlights (as of December 31, 2018)

- \$814 million** paid in pension benefits annually
- \$3,372** average monthly allowance for all General members
- \$6,245** average monthly allowance for all Safety members
- \$3,922** average monthly allowance for General members who retired with a service retirement in 2018
- \$7,752** average monthly allowance for Safety members who retired with a service retirement in 2018
- 50%** of all payees receive a monthly allowance less than \$3,000
- 10%** of all payees receive a pension greater than \$100,000, typically attorneys, department heads, and other professionals

For more information on OCERS' investment portfolio, visit the [Investment page online](#).

Here's where the money comes from...
(for every dollar OCERS receives*)



Net Investment Income
This includes earnings from stocks, bonds, alternatives, real estate and other investments, minus fees.

Employer Contributions
This is the money paid to OCERS from employers for pension benefits.

Employee Contributions
This is the money active employees pay into the fund for future benefits

*This graphic represents a simplification of OCERS' net additions for the period 1998 – 2018.

OCERS Board of Retirement Welcomes Adele Tagaloa and the Return of Frank Eley

General Board Member Adele Tagaloa and incumbent Retiree Board Member Frank Eley will assume their three-year terms on January 1, 2020.

“OCERS employs financial, legal and administrative professionals to help manage the system’s more than \$16 billion in assets,” said Ms. Tagaloa, who has worked for the County of Orange since 2009 and currently works for the Registrar of Voters Office. “These are the kinds of decisions OCERS Board members make all the time and I knew we needed someone who understands the retirement security needs of working families like mine...I am excited for this new adventure, looking forward to taking a deeper dive into the world of investments and retirement, knowing first-hand the value and quality of life that a secure pension means for our members.” Mr. Eley has been serving on the Board of Retirement for more than 20 years and brings a wealth of experience to his role on the board.



Above: Adele Tagaloa and incumbent Retiree Board Member Frank Eley



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OCERS Benefit Payment Schedule for 2020

| Payment Month | Payment Day | Benefit Payment Date* |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| January | Thursday | January 2, 2020 |
| February | Friday | January 31, 2020 |
| March | Friday | February 28, 2020 |
| April | Wednesday | April 1, 2020 |
| May | Friday | May 1, 2020 |
| June | Monday | June 1, 2020 |
| July | Wednesday | July 1, 2020 |
| August | Friday | July 31, 2020 |
| September | Tuesday | September 1, 2020 |
| October | Thursday | October 1, 2020 |
| November | Friday | October 30, 2020 |
| December | Tuesday | December 1, 2020 |

*Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) deposit schedule

1099-R forms will be mailed
at the end of January, 2020



Log into your myOCERS
online account



Confirm that your
address is correct