

Active Participating Employers:

CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

COUNTY OF ORANGE

Orange County Cemetery District

ORANGE COUNTY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION

ORANGE COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

ORANGE COUNTY IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission

Orange County Public Law Library

ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

Orange County Transportation Authority

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCIES April 10, 2020

A message from Steve Delaney, OCERS CEO

I am writing to share my sincere hope that you and your family are safe and healthy in these uncertain times. I want to take this opportunity to reach out to our more than 18,000 payees to assure you that the Orange County Employees Retirement System (OCERS) is strong, financially secure, and your hard-earned pension benefit is safe. OCERS is celebrating 75 years of dedicated service to our members, and through the highs and lows of those years – from the system's start in the chaos of a world war, through the trauma of the County's bankruptcy a half century later, to the Great Recession already more than a decade past, through all of that – every OCERS pension check ever earned has been paid. Nothing in this current crisis can change that. That is our promise to you, for your lifetime – you can count on your OCERS benefit, always!

A retiree recently shared with me how impressed he was with the professional ethos of the OCERS staff, commenting on the counselor that assisted him: "I could tell that she cared about my future." His observation speaks volumes as to the spirit of service and dedication that you will find demonstrated by everyone at OCERS. Though the OCERS building is temporarily closed to the public in order to protect you as well as our staff, the OCERS team is fully engaged and working remotely to assist you. We are available by telephone (714-558-6200) or e-mail (info@ocers.org). OCERS is here from 8 to 5, Monday through Friday; you will reach an OCERS' staff operator, eager to help you in any way we can. Serving you and making sure your benefit is safe, that is our mission.

When financial markets experience downturns, some OCERS members become concerned about their retirement benefits. The good news for OCERS benefit recipients is that stock market declines **do not** affect benefit amounts. Market volatility is expected but OCERS is a long-term investor and the OCERS Board of Retirement's investment philosophy is designed to minimize the impact of that volatility and achieve our goal of providing you with a safe and secure benefit through asset diversification and prudent strategies.

On behalf of the OCERS Board of Retirement, as well as the OCERS team, I want to wish you and yours the best of health as we look forward to brighter days ahead.

Sincerely,

Steve Delaney, CEO Orange County Employees Retirement System