

**WATERTOWN
CONTRIBUTORY
RETIREMENT
SYSTEM**

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472

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We're on the Web!
www.watertownretirement.com

2018 Payment Schedule

Jan—01/31/18
Feb—02/28/18
Mar—03/30/18
Apr—04/30/18
May—05/31/18
Jun—06/29/18
Jul—07/31/18
Aug—08/31/18
Sep—09/28/18
Oct—10/31/18
Nov—11/30/18
Dec—12/28/18

www.watertownretirement.com

The Watertown Retirement System has recently updated the System's website. For Active and Retired Member Information, links to related websites, access to downloadable forms, copies of up to date Meeting Agendas and helpful publications, including Group Percentage Charts, please visit us at

www.watertownretirement.com

If it's Important, Please Call Ahead!

We welcome all members and beneficiaries to visit the retirement office. If you have a question or problem that needs special information or serious consideration, we want to be fully prepared to give you the help and time you need. That's why it's important whenever possible that we know in advance that you are coming.

Also, there are times when both staff members may be attending the same meeting and the office may be closed. Calling ahead may save a wasted trip.

Although it is not always necessary to make an appointment, the more advance notice we have that you are coming, especially for benefit counseling, the more information we will have prepared in advance. This saves time and ensures you receive accurate information in your area of concern.

Please call (617) 972-6456 or email:
bsheehan@watertownretirement.com
ksheehan@watertownretirement.com

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BOARD MEMBERS:

THOMAS V. THIBAUT, JR.
Chairman & Elected Member

THOMAS J. TRACY
Ex-Officio & Vice Chairman

DOMENIC "DUKE" ARONE
Elected Member

JOHN T. LOUGHRAN
Appointed Member

KATHLEEN KIELY-BECCHETTI
Fifth Member

STAFF:

BARBARA A. SHEEHAN
Director
bsheehan@watertownretirement.com

KAYLA J. SHEEHAN
Administrative Assistant
ksheehan@watertownretirement.com

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Watertown Retirement System News

Winter 2017

Mario Orangio, Fire Chief

The Town of Watertown and the Watertown Fire Department has suffered yet another terrible loss this year. On November 7, 2017, Chief Mario Anthony Orangio died from occupational cancer at the age of 51. Chief Orangio grew up in Watertown and had dedicated over 28 years serving the Town on the Fire Department.



On August 3, 1989, he became a member of the Watertown Contributory Retirement System by virtue of his appointment as a firefighter. He was 23 years old. He quickly went up the ranks, and after less than 8 years on the job, on June 5, 1997 he was appointed Lieutenant. Shortly after that, he became a Captain on April 12, 2001, and then finally on February 26, 2004, at the young age of 37 years old, Mario became the Chief of the Watertown Fire Department.

Not only was Chief Orangio the youngest Chief in the history of Watertown, he was also the youngest Chief in the 34 Greater Boston communities that made up the Massachusetts MetroFire consortium. Although he may not have had the same "look" or age that most people (including Chief Orangio himself) perceive a Fire Chief to be, through his professionalism and respect of others he quickly became a mentor to many firefighters and mostly other Fire Chiefs around the State of Massachusetts. He was the former President of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts, as well as the Chair of the Fire Training Council for the Department of Fire Services.

Chief Orangio was a tough firefighter, a loyal, trusting and respected Fire Chief and most importantly, a loving family man. He leaves behind a wife, Sandra, three daughters, and one grand-daughter. He was a special type of guy, who fought hard right up until the end, and the Town of Watertown will miss him greatly.

Employment After Retirement.....

Post-Retirement Employment in the Public Sector

Many retirees look forward to continuing their service after retirement. Our retirees should know that there are time and earnings restrictions on re-employment with a Massachusetts public employer. The retirement law limits the employment of all retired public employees who work in the public sector after retirement to 960 hours of employment within a calendar year. The "public sector" is defined as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its political subdivisions, including municipalities, authorities and districts that provide retirement benefits for employees under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32. The restriction does not apply to federal employment or public service rendered in another state.

In addition to the hours limitation, there is an earnings limitation. The law prohibits a retiree from receiving post-retirement wages from public employment which, when combined with the retiree's allowance, is in excess of what the retiree would have earned in the position from which he or she retired. Excess payments must be refunded to the employer or to the retirement system.

Commencing the next January 1st following

twelve months of retirement, the retiree is allowed to earn the difference between the salary paid in the retiree's former position minus the retiree's allowance, plus an additional \$15,000. If a retiree reaches the 960 hour limitation prior to reaching the new excess earnings limitation, the retiree must stop working. The hours and earnings limitations apply to all retirees. They do not apply to survivors or beneficiaries.

Post-Retirement Employment in the Private Sector

If you are a non-disability retiree, you can earn unlimited salary in the private sector with no impact upon your retirement allowance. If you are a disability retiree, however, you are still limited to earning the difference between the current salary for your former position and your retirement allowance, plus \$15,000.

Disability Retirees

In addition to the time and earnings limitations, all disability retirees are required to submit a statement of their earnings each year. PERAC mails disability retirees an Annual Statement of Earned Income every January which must be completed and returned on or before April 15th of each year.

MACRS Conference Update

Twice a year, in the Spring and in the Fall, the Massachusetts Association of Contributory Retirement Systems (MACRS) holds an education conference for the staff and board members of retirement systems across Massachusetts. The education received at each of these conferences is invaluable, and provides the Board Members and staff the knowledge needed in order to provide the very best for their members.

This year's Spring Conference, which was held in Hyannis, MA, honored Watertown Retirement Board's attorney, Thomas F. Gibson, Esq, for his incredible public service contributions through his many years of working in several different positions. We have been fortunate enough to have Mr. Gibson as our attorney for over 25 years, and hope to have his guidance on the Board for many more years to come.

IN MEMORY...*The following are members of the Watertown Retirement System who have most recently passed away. Our deepest sympathies to their families, friends, and loved ones.*

Gennaro Barbato	02/11/17	Mario Orangio	11/07/17
Daniel Boyden	12/06/16	Arthur Papazian	07/15/17
Douglas Carlson	04/28/17	Barbara Tobin	09/20/17
Salvatore Ciccarelli	11/18/16	Peter Torilli	04/25/17
Cecelia Franchina	01/15/17	Joseph Toscano	03/17/17
Thomas Maloney	04/04/17	Dominick Uttaro	09/06/17
Eleanor Nixon	11/18/16	Arthur Wilson	10/18/16

Annual Retiree Affidavits Sent Out!

Every two years, the retirees and survivors of retirees of the Watertown Contributory Retirement System must fill out an affidavit certifying certain information. These affidavits must be returned to the Retirement Office within a timely manner! They have been put in the mail as of November 27, 2017 so please take the time to review the information and send them back ASAP in order to prevent termination of benefits. If you have not received an affidavit as of yet, please contact the Retirement Office at (617) 972-6456.

Election Results:

Thank you to all members who participated in the Retirement Board's recent Election. Nomination Papers were submitted from the incumbent, Thomas V. Thibaut, Jr. as well as Ms. Karen O'Reilly, the Town of Watertown's Animal Control Officer, for a Term to expire October 15, 2020.

On Tuesday, September 05, 2017 ballot packets were mailed out to all active, inactive and retired members of the Retirement System; a total of 1,054 in all. On October 13, 2017 the ballot packets were opened and counted. Both parties were invited and in attendance to witness the ballot count.

The results were as follows:

358 Votes - Thomas V. Thibaut, Jr.
129 Votes - Karen O'Reilly

At their next scheduled monthly meeting, the Watertown Retirement Board voted to accept the report of their Election Officer and declared Mr. Thibaut the winner of the election for another 3 year term. Mr. Thibaut currently serves as the Board's Chairman.

Congratulations To Our New Retirees.....

The Following are the most recent Retirees from the Town of Watertown

Kevin Boudreau	11/30/17	Robert Kelly	02/28/17
Maria Chaisson	06/30/17	Karen Norton	09/15/17
Dennis Civetti	07/25/17	Elizabeth Sahakian	08/18/17
Joseph Darby	11/04/17	Joseph Tuson	01/06/17
Paul Farrell	04/10/17	Susan Viskin	09/26/17
Diane Ferrigno	10/17/16		
Rita Foglia	08/18/17		
Guillermo Gaitan	04/18/17		
John Gulla	04/28/17		
Christine Hart	08/18/17		

Best Wishes!