



FPPA PensionCheck^{18a}

A semi-annual review of your pension fund.

Retirement 101: Making Room for Retirement



Saving and investing for tomorrow isn't always the easiest thing to do – particularly when you're not sure about getting through today. But you can't let that stop you. By taking some small but effective steps in the right direction, you can set yourself up better for the future.



MAKE ROOM FOR RETIREMENT

Okay, you've got bills to pay. And you want to put some money away for the holidays – and maybe even a short vacation. But you have to make room on that list for retirement.

If you aren't saving now, start small. Consider signing up for a defined contribution (DC) plan–like the FPPA 457(b) Plan– and contribute a percentage of your income that's manageable (aim for whatever's needed to meet your employer contributions, if one is offered).

Keep in mind, if you withdraw any pre-tax money from your 457(b) account you will pay income taxes on that withdrawal.



GROW SLOWLY

Every six months, or whenever you get a raise, consider increasing your contributions to your DC account by 1 – 2%. If you work for an employer who offers matching dollars on your plan contributions, this is especially key. After all, You don't want to leave “free” money on the table.



STRATEGIZE TO FIND EXTRA SAVINGS

If you're having trouble meeting your savings goals, take the time to track your spending for a month or so, to see where your money is going.

Look for places you can cut back. If your credit score is good, try to reduce the interest rates you're paying on your credit cards and other debts.



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WINDFALLS

Got a tax refund? A small bonus or inheritance? Think of these as opportunities to pad your retirement accounts.

The key: put the money to work before you think about spending it.



KEEP AN EYE ON THE MONEY YOU'RE INVESTING

Review your investments once a year to make sure your asset mix (mix of stocks, bonds, and short-term investments) still lines up with your goals.

If you find it hard to regularly review your investments, you may want to consider a single-fund solution, typically a target date fund or target allocation fund. Or consider a managed account, where investment professionals will handle your investments based on your personal situation.



DON'T GET BOGGED DOWN BY YESTERDAY

The biggest financial regret many people have is that they didn't start planning for retirement earlier. Get over it. Then get going.

By doing something today, you already put yourself in a better position for tomorrow.



GFOA Award

For the 2016 FPPA
Comprehensive Annual
Financial Report

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to FPPA for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016. The Certificate of Achievement is a national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government financial reports. This marks the 24th consecutive year FPPA has been given this award.

To view or print a copy of the FPPA Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, visit FPPAco.org/annual-reports.html.



Six Colorado Departments to Join FPPA in 2018

In the past several months, six Colorado police and fire departments have filed resolutions signaling their intention to join the FPPA Defined Benefit System. The departments—Broomfield Police, Fountain Police, Grand Junction Fire, Littleton Police and Montrose Police—have since begun the partial entry process and have set effective dates of entry before the end of 2018.

Within the partial entry process, members of these departments will have the option to select whether to join the FPPA Defined Benefit System or remain in their existing local retirement plan. Additionally, all new department hires after the effective date will be automatically enrolled in an FPPA defined benefit plan.



In addition, Monument Police elected to join FPPA in Spring 2018 through a process called supplemental Social Security affiliation. This specialized process is available only to departments that pay into Social Security.

For more information about the affiliation process or to see a list of departments who have re-joined, please visit JoinFPPA.org.



first retirement dollar?

Send us your stories!

To our staff, one of the greatest joys of working for FPPA is watching our members safely retire at the end of a successful career. Likewise, some of our favorite conversations with members are spent learning what they plan to do with the next chapter of their lives.

If you're planning to retire in the near future (or are still years away but like to dream), drop us a line! Or, if you've retired with FPPA, let us know how you spent your first retirement dollar.

Did you:

- ✓ Tackle a bucket list item?
- ✓ Enjoy a hobby or travel?
- ✓ Start a new career?
- ✓ Frame your first dollar for display?
- ✓ Something else?

To share your story, send us an email at 1stRetirementDollar@FPPAco.org. Submissions could be published in future newsletters, blog posts or video interviews!

Colorado State Legislation

Certain FPPA administered plans have a provision for plan changes or enhancements to be made through the passage of State Legislation. Such legislative efforts are first drafted by staff then presented to the State Legislative Council Committee called the Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension Reform Commission (PRC). Bills with favorable approval from the PRC are then introduced to the Colorado General Assembly for a vote. The Assembly is generally in session from January to May of each year.

Recently two FPPA drafted bills (HB 18-1056 regarding the FPPA Statewide Health History Form and HB 18-1031 regarding certain requirements for Employers entering into the FPPA Statewide Defined Benefit System) passed during the 2018 Colorado State Legislative Session and have been signed by the governor. Summaries of both bills may be found at FPPAco.org. The full text of the bills are found at leg.colorado.gov/bills.

FPPA Plan Rules & Regulations and FPPA Plan Documents

These governing documents provide even more detail for the administration of FPPA plans. Proposed amendments to both, Rules & Regulations and the Plan Documents are considered each year during the August FPPA Board Meeting followed by discussion and adoption during the September meeting. Announcements for both meetings as well as the proposed & adopted amendments are posted at FPPAco.org. ■■



MAP Member Account Portal FPPAco.org/MAPlaunch.html

Recently, a number of security and ease-of-use updates went into effect to safeguard personal data on the **Member Account Portal (MAP)**. While

most of the updates affect background operations and will not impact the normal MAP user experience, you may notice a few changes to the way your account is accessed. These include:

- ✓ Required challenge questions to verify user identity
- ✓ A 'Remember Me' function allowing users to bypass challenge questions on future visits
- ✓ Additional security measures in the account setup process

Please do not be alarmed if you encounter these or other new security features when logging in to MAP. If you have questions about these changes or feel your information has been compromised, contact FPPA support immediately. ■■

New Security Features Coming to the Member Account Portal
Your information security is important to us

If you have not enrolled in the FPPA 457 Deferred Compensation Plan with your employer, here are a few reasons to consider this option as an additional layer to help you reach your retirement goals:



FPPA Traditional 457 Plan contributions are made pre-tax. This reduces your tax liability now while allowing you to save even more for retirement later. Contributions to the FPPA ROTH 457 Plan are made post-tax for reduced tax liability after retirement



Our fees are competitive and we receive no incentive pay when you enroll. FPPA is also able to negotiate institutional rates for the mutual funds' expense ratios. Compare our fees with other similar plans and you'll like what you see.



Trusted Service Providers: FPPA has partnered with Fidelity Investments for recordkeeping services and investment options. This allows for superior online services as well as phone support with a licensed and knowledgeable Retirement Services Specialist.

Visit our website to learn if your employer has already adopted the FPPA 457 Plan. If they have - enroll today. If they have not adopted the plan contact us to learn how they may join. ■■

Top 3 Reasons to Save with FPPA's 457 Deferred Compensation Plan

- FPPA Traditional 457 Plan (contributions made pre-tax)
- FPPA ROTH 457 Plan (contributions made post-tax)

FPPA PensionCheck

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Upcoming FPPA Events

2018 FPPA
Member Pre-Retirement
Planning Seminar
Details at **FPPAco.org**



Join Us In Montrose!

Navigating the ins and outs of retirement planning can be a very complicated undertaking. The staff at the Fire & Police Pension Association of Colorado understand this and are here to help. Join us for this full-day retirement seminar specifically tailored for our members, the firefighters and police officers of Colorado. Details will be posted soon at FPPAco.org.

If you are within 10 years of retirement or recently retired, this seminar is for you!



2018 FPPA
Employer Summit • October 5
Greenwood Village
Details at **FPPAco.org**

Registration NOW Open for Employers of FPPA Members!

This full-day event is specially designed to help FPPA member departments become more familiar with our plans and processes, and to provide updates on any changes that have taken place in the past year.