



Scott Simon, Executive Director

As the executive director, I report to and serve at the pleasure of the MPERS Board of Trustees. I provide leadership, coordinate all MPERS functions, and administer all program areas for which MPERS is responsible. Today that essentially entails our retirement and disability plans.

Some of my key responsibilities include:

- Providing the Board with policy guidance, goals, and action options for Board discussion, review, and action.
- Working with the Chief Investment Officer, ensuring effective coordination and monitoring of portfolio performance and proper use of internal controls to safeguard the System's assets and fund performance.
- Representing MPERS to legislators, employee and retiree groups, state officials, and other external constituents; providing testimony on legislative or regulatory matters affecting MPERS; communicating policies, practices, procedures, and changes.
- Developing and recommending to the Board long and short-range plans for MPERS.
- Providing direction and oversight to the MPERS staff.
- Regularly reviewing and reporting to the Board on the results of operations to include individual as well as total organization performance.

As a billion dollar financial institution, we are entrusted with the responsible stewardship of plan assets and providing quality service to our members. If you are not familiar with what we do, take some time to get to know the system and the staff here to support it. More importantly, learn about the benefits you are earning by virtue of your service at either MoDOT or the Highway Patrol.

There are plenty of tips to offer when considering retirement but, in my opinion, the most important is to recognize or plan for your retirement sooner rather than later. Being members of MPERS, we are fortunate to enjoy the security of a defined benefit plan - but don't presume this benefit is all you will need. Take advantage of the State's Deferred Compensation Plan or an IRA from another financial institution to improve your chances of a secure and enjoyable retirement. Saving early in your career is ideal, but starting at any time will make a difference. Even if you don't think you can afford to put much aside put something. You will be surprised what a little today will turn into years from now.

In closing, please contact us whenever you have questions related to MPERS. We want to hear from you and how we can better serve your needs.