

We work better, when we work together...

June 2017

For HR/Benefits use only – Please do not distribute to all users

Welcome!

Several new people have been added to our distribution list, and are receiving *The HR Connection* for the first time. As a recap, *The HR Connection* is a newsletter we send out once a month to the HR/Benefits/Payroll staff within MoDOT & Patrol that work with retirement and disability related benefits. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with useful information regarding policies and procedures as well as to keep you informed of any changes or updates that impact the benefits we provide. Prior editions of *The HR Connection* are available under the **Employer Section** of our website, www.mpers.org, which as a recipient of this email, you have been granted exclusive access to view. If you have not received your email notice from MPERS providing you with a username & password, please email Barbara Graessle at mpers@mpers.org.

Thank You for Attending the MPERS Benefits Meeting!

Thank you to everyone who attended in person or via video conference our 3rd MPERS Benefits Meeting held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules to meet with us regarding the retirement & disability benefits we administer. We hope you found the meeting useful and informative. If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the survey that was emailed to you. Your feedback will help us improve future meetings to make them as productive and successful as possible.

Clarification from Meeting – 2011 Tier Beneficiaries

We did have a topic come up during our benefits meeting that needed some follow-up and clarification.

Question:

If a member of the 2011 Tier passed away and listed someone other than a spouse as the beneficiary of their employee contributions (and there are no survivor benefits due), who would receive the balance of the employee contributions – the current spouse or the beneficiary the member had listed?

Answer:

The recipient of the employee contribution balance in this scenario would be whomever the member listed as the beneficiary, regardless of current marital status.

Given the importance of beneficiary designations, please continue to remind your employees to keep their beneficiary information up to date. As they come in to fill out other survivor paperwork when a life changing event occurs, please have them check or update their beneficiary(ies) listed for their employee contributions as well. Beneficiary information is listed on their annual benefit statement and can also be viewed in their *myMPERS* Secure Member Access. If you have any other questions or concerns about this topic, please feel free to contact us.

Special Election

Voting is currently underway for the special election to fill the remaining term of our Active MSHP Employee Representative on the MPERS Board of Trustees. Active members of the Patrol have until Friday, June 9, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. to cast their vote. MSHP reps, please encourage your employees to log into their *myMPERS* Secure Member Access to vote. For additional information about the election please review the ***Board Election Brochure*** which is available under the [Publications/Brochures](#) section of our website. The new representative will be officially announced at our June 22, 2017 Board meeting.

Pre-Retirement Seminars for June

June 8, 2017	St. Louis
June 9, 2017	St. Louis
June 21, 2017	Jefferson City

2017 Board Meeting Schedule

June 22, 2017
September 28, 2017
November 16, 2017