



ROLL CALL

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Police Officers' Federation of Minneapolis

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Mission Statement

To promote the positive role of the police profession.

To protect and secure members' rights and benefits through effective representation and professional relationships with the community and local, state and national governments.

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MN LEGISLATURE PASSES BILL REDUCING DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR POLICE AND FIRE PERA MEMBERS

In the waning hours of the 2007 Session, the Minnesota Legislature passed legislation that dramatically reduces the disability pension benefits payable under the Police and Fire PERA fund. The legislation, which was initially proposed by PERA to address what it claims are abuses of disability benefits that have contributed to the under-funding of the PERA P&F fund, was signed into law on May 25, 2007.

The key elements of this act are as follows:

- *Changes the definition of "duty disability" from any injury or illness suffered while on duty to one that occurs while performing job-related duties "that reflect inherent dangers" of police work. This significantly limits the situations that will qualify for the favorable duty disability treatment and raises the potential for employers and PERA to challenge more disability claims.
- *Caps duty disabilities at 60% of the officer's high-five average salary. Presently, additional benefits continue to accrue for officers with 20 or more years of service.
- *Eliminates eligibility for a disability benefit for officers who become disabled after age 55 and who have 20 years of service. These officers would be forced to take the retirement annuity. Since duty disability benefits are not taxable, this would have a significant financial impact on most officers injured after age 55.
- *Limits eligibility for any disability for officers who become disabled after age 55 but with less than 20 years of service. The disability benefits will be automatically converted to a retirement annuity after five years (60 months) of disability benefits.
- *Caps non-duty disabilities at 45% of the officer's high-five average. This would limit benefits now payable to officers who become disabled after accruing more than 15 years of service.
- *For all disabilities occurring before an officer's 55th birthday, disability benefits will be payable only until an officer turns 55 and then will be automatically converted to a retirement annuity. Presently there is no automatic conversion. This would have a significant financial impact on officers injured prior to age 55 by limiting the number of years for which the favorable tax treatment of a disability benefit would be available.
- *Disability benefits will be prohibited for disabilities arising from the use of illegal drugs.



MESSAGE FROM THE “PREZ”

“THAT’S THE TICKET” — MAYOR RYBAK’S MOTTO

The recent bridge collapse on I-35 graphically brought home what’s at stake in the manpower fight the Federation is in with Mayor R. T. Rybak. The mayor and his cheerleaders claim that it’s “inappropriate” to use the bridge as another example of Rybak’s lack of commitment to public safety in Minneapolis.

But why is that the case? Certainly the collapse was unforeseen and fatal to a number of area residents, which only makes it all the more important to use this disaster as a tool to evaluate the mayor.

A police department is supposed to be able to handle emergencies. After all that’s what we are here for. If the sole purpose of a police department is to drive the mayor around the city and issue parking tickets, then a combination of Yellow Cab and Kelly Girl would be sufficient.

But that’s not all a police department does, and a department that cannot handle an emergency is useless to the public. The fact that Rybak’s police department is stretched to the breaking point by the bridge collapse proves my point.

The officers of the Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis did a magnificent job of rising to the occasion when the bridge collapsed, but it was, as Lord Wellington said of the battle of Waterloo, a close run thing. What would have happened if instead of a single bridge collapsing, the city had been hit by a series of tornadoes that devastated a wide swath of homes and businesses?

A department that is 51 officers short of the mayor’s stated goal of 893 officers would have been hard-pressed to respond to the disaster and still do the basic job of keeping the city safe.

Quite simply the city of Minneapolis needs the 892 officers the mayor has been promising for the past two years and has failed repeatedly to deliver. Instead of making public safety - in his own word - a priority, Rybak continues to suffer from political ADHD.

The mayor lurches from one crisis to the next with no plan and no strategy or vision for the future. A city with leadership in the mayor’s office — as opposed to cheerleadership — is able to take problems in stride and maintain an overall, consistent vision for the future.

The spin machine in the mayor’s office is working overtime to convince citizens that crime is down. But it’s only down relative to 2005, which was one of the worst years for crime in the city’s history. And the spinmiesters point to the cameras and shot-spotters installed around the city.

But that technology is designed to *solve* crimes that have already occurred. The men and women of the Minneapolis Police Department want to *prevent* crimes that have yet to occur.

That’s what the citizens of this city want Mr. Mayor, and it takes officers on the street to do it.

PERA continued from page 1

*The service requirement for survivor benefits for non-duty disabilities is increased from one year to three years

In addition to reducing disability benefits, the act also changes survivor annuity benefits and the early retirement penalty as follows:

*The act creates the same “inherent risk” test for duty deaths there by limiting situations that would qualify for a line-of-duty death benefit Also, the present language treating active military service as “line of duty” for purposes of the survivor annuity is eliminated To offset the limitations on qualifying events, the line of duty survivor annuity is increased from 50% to 60% of the average salary payable in the six months prior to the time of death

*Increases the early retirement penalty from one-tenth (0.1) for each month prior to an officer’s 55th birthday to two-tenths (0.2) for each month prior to 55 However, this provision only applies to new PERA members hired after June 30, 2007 or any former member who is reinstated after that date.

The Federation and its lobbyists worked hard to defeat this punitive and unnecessary legislation For years, PERA has had multiple tools at its disposal to deny bogus disability claims, including the requirement that the applicant submit to an independent medical evaluation PERA also has the ability take away disability benefits from those presently drawing them if they believe that the claimed disability is not legitimate Yet rather than go after the abusers that have caused the

PERA Continued on page 7

2007 Annual Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis Golf Tournament

The 2007 Annual Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis golf tournament was held at Columbia Golf Course on June 29, 2007. The tournament was a great success! Many local businesses generously supported our golf tournament by either sponsoring a hole or contributing generous prizes. We would like to express thanks to the following businesses:

3M Corporation
 4th Street Saloon
 Alary's Bar
 Applebees
 Bachmann's
 Bellanotte
 Black Bear Casino & Lodge
 Bob Johnson
 Broadway Awards
 Broadway Pizza
 Cafe Biaggio
 Canterbury Park
 Caribou Coffee
 Champp's
 Chipotle
 Collins, Buckley, Sauntry & Haugh
 Dave Rivers
 Elsie's
 Emily's Lebanese Delicatessen

Frederic Bruno & Associates
 Gameworks
 Gasthof Zur Gemutlichkeit
 General Mills
 Graffic Traffic
 Haskell's
 Hooters
 Hyatt Regency
 ICMA-Tom Hilson
 ING Financial
 Inventory Trading Company
 Jax Cafe
 JD Hoyt's
 Jensen, Bell, Converse & Erickson
 Keeps
 Kozy's Steaks & Seafood
 Law Offices of Robert Zeglovitch
 Lyon's Pub

Maxwell's American Cafe
 Midwest Publishing, Inc.
 Minneapolis Police Relief Association
 Minnesota Swarm
 Minnesota Twins
 Minnesota Vikings
 Mystic Lake Resort & Casino
 Northeast Bank
 North Memorial Hospital
 O'Donovan's Irish Pub
 O'Gara's Bar & Grill
 Red Bull
 Rice, Michels & Walther
 Saint Paul Saints
 Sweet Lorraine's
 Treasure Island Resort & Casino
 Ukrainian Event Center
 Uptown Bar & Grill
 Wrecker Services



Lt. Heimerl accepting trophies for his team's 1st Place finish



2nd Place went to Team Reynolds



Off. Rowland working on his swing



Sgt. Krueger resting between holes



*Above: Team Rowland takes time to smile for a picture
 Right: Off. Wieland and Sgt. Dale out on the links*



DAVE HOLM FAMILY BENEFIT 2007

Retired Sgt. Tony Miranda took the initiative and planned the Holm Family Benefit. Sgt. Miranda was able to coordinate efforts with numerous vendors and sponsors to make the event an incredible success. Officer Holm's **MPD** family pitched in and volunteered times to work the event, cook food, coordinate a silent auction, sponsor a raffle, and sell event tickets. The efforts of all involved made this a successful event and the benefit was able to raise over \$100,000 for the Holm family!



Off. Holm attended the benefit with his family and visited with the benefit attendees.



A bagpipe band performing at the benefit.



Off. Holm's family and friends



The crowd participated in various activities throughout the evening



The ATV that was raffled off for the Holm Family



GB Leighton performing

YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS: MAKING AN EVEN SMARTER DECISION

By: Tom Hilson, ICMA-RC

You could have more control over your retirement savings than you think. Sure, the investment market is unpredictable and there is always a certain amount of risk, but investing for your retirement years is still a smart decision.

An even smarter decision may be to take advantage of your cost savings with a 457 deferred compensation plan offered through ICMA-RC. With no administrative fees to bog down your savings, you can save hundreds, maybe even thousands of dollars per year that you can apply toward your retirement nest egg.

The benefits don't stop there. Educational resources and investment offerings from ICMA-RC are in your favor, too. A licensed ICMA-RC Retirement Plans Specialist, Tom Hilson, is available to assist you with questions regarding your 457 plan and your specific retirement savings goals. He can provide you with a personalized retirement benefit illustration and educate you about opportunities for increasing your savings, as well as distribution options. Tom can also tell you more about the funds available in your 457 plan.

ICMA-RC offers a number of investment options for you to beef up your savings. For example, there are the Vantagepoint Model Portfolio Funds and the Vantagepoint Milestone Funds*, which make it easier for you to more systematically save for retirement. With the Model Portfolio Funds, you pick the one that fits your retirement goals, needs, and tolerance for risks — the rest is done by professional fund managers who allocate the assets, select investments, and rebalance the funds. If you want more help, just pick the Milestone Fund closest to when you want

your money and ICMA-RC's professional fund managers will help get you ready for retirement by rebalancing your assets, moving more of your funds from stocks to bonds as you approach your retirement date.

Since we can't predict the market, we should look at other ways to grow our retirement savings — ICMA-RC's 457 deferred compensation plan, with no administrative fees and its investment offerings may be part of the answer.

While you take advantage of your ICMA-RC 457 deferred compensation plan, you may also want to consider ICMA-RC's No-Fee** Vantagepoint IRA and Roth IRA, which are available to you, your spouse, and other members of your family. These IRAs also offer a wide range of fund choices from many fund families.

To learn more about the ICMA-RC deferred compensation plan or the No-Fee Vantagepoint IRA, ask your local representative, Tom Hilson. You may contact Tom at 763-689-9590 or by e-mail at thilson@icmarc.org.

ICMA-RC is an independent, not-for-profit corporation, founded by public employees for public employees. ICMA-RC provides the educational resources and the investment choices you want to assist you in planning for retirement.

* Please be advised that with "Fund of Funds" arrangements, additional underlying fees may apply. Please consult the prospectus for details.

** The No-Fee Vantagepoint IRA has a low initial minimum investment of \$1,500, which is waived if funded through the convenience of an automatic investment program.

Vantagepoint Securities are offered through ICMA-RC Services, LLC, member NASD-SIPC. AC: 0607-1475

2007 COMMERATIVE PISTOL

It's not too late to order the 2007 Minneapolis Police Charities, Inc. authorized commemorative pistol! The commemorative pistol is a Beretta Model 92F. Only a limited edition of 50 will be made. The proof is available for viewing upon request. Contact Lyall Delaney at the Federation with questions or for ordering. (612) 788-8444. To see more pictures of the pistol, log on to www.mpdfederation.com.



MN Law Enforcement Family Support Network

By: Sgt. Steve Wickelgren

Law Enforcement is a tough profession on families. Do you know of any law enforcement family that has not been affected by the job? Education and outreach designed to address specific law enforcement family can be powerful tools to combat the toll this profession is known to take on families.

For the past 18 months law enforcement family members, department representatives and law enforcement membership organizations have been brainstorming and planning for specific resources that would contribute to sustaining healthy and connected law enforcement families.

The MN LEFSN is currently engaged in a statewide officer and family survey process designed to yield very specific information on family needs. This is your opportunity to shape the future of family support in MN and specifically in MPLS. The surveys are available at www.csp.edu/MNLEFSN. Follow the survey link to locate both officer and family surveys.

The MN Law Enforcement Family Support Network needs three things from you!

1. Take the survey (sworn and non-sworn employees.)
2. Get your family members to take the survey (Spouses, partners, parents and children of both retired and active law enforcement.)
3. Identify family members to volunteer for a time limited work group. During 3-5, two-hour meetings between October and March, these family volunteers will be asked to represent family perspectives and provide feedback as we prioritize resource development and roll out sources.

Please contact: Steve Wickelgren for more information.

problem, PERA's solution is to limit the disability benefits for all police officers and fire fighters who are still on the job risking their health and safety This is grossly unfair and is bad public policy Moreover, this legislation is an over-reaction to a minimal problem In testimony at the Legislature, PERA officials admitted this legislation will have a statistically insignificant impact on the overall funding problem of the P&F fund

The Federation and its lobbyists proposed that the Legislature delay any reform legislation until more reasonable alternatives could be explored to address the problems relating to illegitimate disability benefit claims However, the Federation's efforts were trumped by PERA, the League of Cities and the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association While it was disheartening to see this legislation pass, it was even more disturbing that the MPPOA was actually supporting it The Federation believes that organizations consisting of police officers should be active in fighting to protect the benefits of police officers, not working to undermine them Accordingly, despite this legislative defeat, the Federation will continue to fight to protect its members and all police officers.



We want to hear from you!

Please email rollcall@mpdfederation.com or contact us if there are any articles or stories you would like to submit or if you have any comments or ideas for the Roll Call @ 612-788-8444

WORK RELATED INJURIES

From the City of Minneapolis



If you are injured at work the Worker's Compensation process can be confusing and frustrating. The information below will assist you in navigating through the Worker's Comp process.

If medical care is determined necessary:

*In the case of emergency or after hours care—employee must report to HCMC or the closest emergency facility.

*If the medical care necessary is non-life threatening, and the injury occurs between 0800 and 1630 (M-F), the employee may either:

*Be seen by HealthPartners Occupational Medicine that same day.

*Be seen by their own personal physician that same day.

**You must tell the clinic that this is a Work Related Injury to be covered by City of Minneapolis Worker's Compensation (otherwise, you will be billed at home). If you choose to treat with your personal physician, you will be personally responsible for giving them the necessary work comp billing information.*

A Supervisors Report of Injury (IOD) form must be filled out and submitted the same day as the initial injury, a recurrence of a work-related injury, or surgery due to a work-related injury.

*In the event of an emergency, the supervisor should complete this form for the employee and contact MPD Health and Wellness Coordinator and the City of Minneapolis Worker's Comp Unit.

*The IOD Form is to be faxed to City of Minneapolis Worker's Comp at 673-2775 the same day of injury.

*The IOD Form is to be hand carried to MPD Payroll, room 219 City Hall, the same day of injury. After business hours or on weekends the form should be mailed to MPD Payroll, room 100 City Hall.

*A Report of Workability form is to be submitted to your supervisor, the Health and Wellness Program,

and City of Minneapolis Worker's Comp after each medical appointment due to a work-related injury.

*Follow up care is NOT to be done at HCMC ER.

*An ambulance is to be called ONLY in the case of an emergency.

*If you receive any bills at your home that you believe are to be paid for by City of Minneapolis Worker's Comp, you MUST contact your medical provider and give them the necessary work comp billing information.

*No employee is to be working while taking a narcotic medication (i.e. Prozac, Vicodin, etc).

*If an employee is prescribed a narcotic pain medication call the Health and Wellness Coordinator ASAP for more info.

*If you are placed on limited duty for more than 7 days, you must be examined by HealthPartners Occupational Medicine before returning to work full duty.

*City of Minneapolis Worker's Comp only covers medical treatment that is reasonable, necessary and related to the claim.

MPD Designated Clinic

HealthPartners Occupational Medicine 2220
Riverside Ave, 612-373-4144

HCMC ER, 701 Park Ave

only for after hours care, blood borne pathogens, all emergencies, and drug and alcohol testing

Health and Wellness Coordinator

Jennifer Rudlong, City Hall, room 100, 612-673-2978

Worker's Comp Claim Coordinator

Cindy Krepela, Towle Bldg, room 550, 612-673-2006

Maui Jim Sunglasses will be **coming to our office** on **Wed, November 7th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** to show us the newest Maui Jim arrivals. The representative will have the full line of Maui Jims to look at and try on. The **sunglasses will be available to order at half-price of the MSRP to Federation Members.** Check out Maui Jim Sunglasses at www.mauijim.com.



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Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis



UPCOMING FEDERATION EVENTS

October 25	General Membership Meeting
November 7	Maui Jim Sunglasses, Federation Office 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
November 29	General Membership Meeting
December 6 & 7	Annual Holiday Merchandise Sale, City Hall, Room 319
December 12	Holiday Party, Ukrainian Event Center

Police Federation Directory

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