

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, FEBRUARY 2018

As we slowly exit winter, the blossoms signal spring and a warm up on the political front both nationally and here in Fresno County. As budgets are built, reviewed, debated, scrutinized and then allocated- we can see how the funding process impacts law enforcement. Some budget items (namely federal and state resources) have a trickle-down effect that is most visible when it reaches local jurisdictions.

One of the goals of the Trump administration is to construct a border wall. The wall is one of the projects planned and in the budget building process. These expenditures will no doubt have an impact on the money allocated to state and local governments. These pricy projects will instantly impact law enforcement (as you can see in the bullet points below) - because funds we rely on locally will be dramatically cut.

The current budget is still being discussed. The snapshot below provides some information regarding what the showdown will be about.

- **\$99 million for the COPS hiring program, down nearly 50% from \$195 million enacted in 2017.**
 - The budget states that COPS hiring program funds would be redirected to higher priorities, such as fighting gangs and crime stemming from opioid addiction.
 - The attached **fact sheet**, titled “Combating the Opioid Epidemic” was released with the President’s FY2019 budget request and outlines the administration’s plans for “nearly \$17 billion in opioid-related spending” that it has requested for 2019.
 - According to the fact sheet, the administration plans to address the opioid epidemic by (1) expanding treatment and recovery support services; (2) enhancing prevention (e.g., through a new media campaign targeted toward those at risk of addiction); (3) disrupting the supply of illegal drugs; and investing in medical research to discover opioid alternatives and new ways to prevent and treat opioid misuse.
- \$2.2 billion in discretionary funds for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), including an additional \$41 million above the \$26 million currently provided for specialized efforts to end the opioid epidemic by targeting drug traffickers.

- Eliminating the \$210 million State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) program, this reimburses state and local governments for costs of incarcerating undocumented immigrants who are charged with crimes.
 - The SCAAP funds would be reallocated to border security and enforcement initiatives, such as additional beds for immigration detention centers and a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

I will continue to follow the progress of the federal budget and the impacts it will have to the Fresno County Sheriff's Office and/or the County of Fresno.

Retirement Rates- Fiscal Year 2018/2019

There is a bit of stabilization to report on the retirement front for all Fresno County employees. Each year an actuarial report is put together by FCERA and then presented/proposed to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors for approval. This year, since many new employees were hired in Fresno County- the retirement fund became more stable. Another factor is a strong stock market. Below, depending on what tier you are in, you will see the overall reflection in the amount you have to pay for your individual pension.

Also, a reminder to FDSA members, our own Deputy Sheriff John Robinson is now a trustee on the retirement board of FCERA. Although John is new to the board, he will be learning more about the system and be available to you for any questions that you may have. He is also open to suggestions on ways to improve the fund/system in the future.

Below I have attached the memo released to all employee labor groups for the upcoming recommended rates.

TO: All Certified Employee Organizations

Re: Retirement Actuarial Recommendations

County of Fresno DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES PAUL NERLAND
DIRECTOR

SENT VIA: U.S. MAIL E-MAIL

The Fresno County Retirement Board is required by law to conduct periodic actuarial studies of the County's retirement system. The retirement system's funded status is evaluated every year, based on a June 30th effective date. The purpose of this analysis is to evaluate the solvency of the fund and determine the contributions required by plan members and the participating employer for the upcoming fiscal year. Any action

proposed by the Retirement Board that would impact the plan's interest rate, or employee and employer contribution rates, must be provided to the Board of Supervisors for consideration at least 45 days prior to the beginning of the succeeding fiscal year.

On December 13, 2017, the Board of Retirement approved and adopted the actuarial valuation report as of June 30, 2017, prepared by the Segal Company. Based on the actuarial valuation report, the recommended employee rates are as follows:

	Current Rates	Recommended Average Rates
General Tier I	9.99%	9.93%
General Tier II	7.26%	7.22%
General Tier III	8.00%	7.99%
General Tier IV	7.11%	7.06%
General Tier V	7.26%	7.23%
Safety Tier I	13.21 %	13.18%
Safety Tier II	11.59%	11.61 %
Safety Tier IV	10.06%	10.09%
Safety Tier V	12.03%	12.07%

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 3, 2018 to remember our local law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty. The annual Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony will take place in Courthouse Park at noon. At 5:30pm that evening, a reception held at the FDSA honoring our deputies killed in the line of duty. This is a great event to support the families of those who have paid the ultimate price. We would like to invite you all to attend.