



# HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

July 2024 Newsletter

Contact Us: 614.431.0781



***"Our History Is Our Pride"***

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## **Special Committee on COLA**

Last month we reported the inability to provide a cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) in 2025, and the creation of a Special Committee on COLA. The committee met for the first time on July 17. During the first meeting the committee reviewed the history of COLA provided to HPRS members, as well as the changes to the benefit over time. A committee work plan was established that provides the following objectives:

- Evaluate the current COLA framework and its impact on HPRS and its members.
- Evaluate the COLA framework at other retirement systems.
- Work with the HPRS actuary to determine the cost and impact of potential changes to the COLA framework.
- Propose legislative and/or administrative changes to the board regarding the COLA framework.

An update on the progress will be provided in the newsletters going forward and additional information can be found on our website.



Please help us to ensure your information is up to date. Any address, email, phone, marital status, dependent, beneficiary, or job status changes need to be given to HPRS to provide the best service to our members. Some changes can be made by the member through the secure area of our website. Beneficiary Designation and Personal Contact Information Update forms can also be found on the website under the *Forms* tab. Contact our office if you need assistance.



## Board News

HPRS received one candidacy form by the May 24, 2024 deadline for the employee-member trustee position. Per Ohio Administrative Rule 5505-9-01 (F), if the number of candidates is less than or equal to the number of available board seats, each candidate shall be certified as a trustee without the need for an election.

Major Matthew Them is officially re-elected as employee-member trustee for the four-year term, August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2028. He will be sworn in at the August meeting.



## Job Opportunities for Retirees

As a reminder, job opportunities are listed in the secure area of our website ([www.ohprs.org](http://www.ohprs.org)). Please check this periodically to ensure you are aware of any new postings.

## August 2024 Board/Committee Schedule

The Annual Board Conference is scheduled to be held in Cleveland this year at the Drury Plaza Hotel Cleveland Downtown on Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 0900 hours, and Friday, August 23, 2024 at 0830 hours.

Some committee meetings may be canceled from time to time. Please refer to the HPRS website at [www.ohprs.org](http://www.ohprs.org) for the most current meeting dates and times.

## Save the Date!

- 2024 Sunbird Annual Meeting, September 14, 2024 - 12:00 p.m. - All-Occasions Banquet Center - Waldo, Ohio
- 2025 Snowbird Reunion, February 28 - March 2, 2025 - Lake Mary, Florida



Please visit our website for more details and for RSVP information, <https://www.ohprs.org/ohprs/RetireeEventsCalendar.jsp>.

## Our office will be closed:

~ no closures in August



## Retiree Qualification

The Academy Range will be hosting annual retiree qualifications in 2024. As a reminder, your qualification under the LEOSA rules is only good for one year from the date of qualification. This can be found in 18 USC 926C: Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement officers. For example, if you qualified on May 1, 2023, then you must qualify on or prior to May 1, 2024.

The upcoming scheduled retiree qualifications at the Academy for 2024 are:

- Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 1300 hours
- Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 1300 hours

Retirees may also reach out to their local District Headquarters for local weapons qualification availability.

You must complete a Weapons Qualifications Record (HP-15C), and submit it to Melissa Fellure at [mjfellure@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:mjfellure@dps.ohio.gov) no less than 14 days prior to the qualification date. Retirees must bring their Division-issued ID Card with them to the qualification, and the retiree must supply weapon(s) and ammunition. If you have any questions, please contact Lieutenant Brian Nelson of the Academy Range at [bwnelson@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:bwnelson@dps.ohio.gov) or 614.644.4325.



## Beware of These Common Types of Scams

### Investment Scam

Scammers may reach out claiming to have a guaranteed, no-risk strategy to turn an investment into huge financial gains. These investment opportunities often operate through financial apps or websites that appear legitimate.

### Employment Scam

When searching for work, people may come across fake job postings or be contacted by recruitment impersonators. These job offers typically advertise the ability to make money working from home with little time or effort needed.

### Impersonation Scam

The scammer may pose as a business, government agency, or vendor you work with. They may send you a spoofed email (appearing to be from a legit source) or use a fake caller ID, requesting a change in payment or creating a false sense of urgency to send funds due to fraud or a late payment.

## Important Numbers For You To Have On Hand

HPRS - 614.431.0781  
Via Benefits (**Medicare**) - 833.431.1358  
Via Benefits (**Pre-Medicare**) - 800.667.2184  
Medicare - 800.633.4227

Aetna Vision - 877.973.3238  
Delta Dental of Ohio - 800.524.0149  
Social Security - 800.772.1213  
Ohio Def. Comp. - 877.644.6457

## HPRS Staff Email Directory

Carl Roark, Ph.D., *Executive Director* - [c.roark@ohprs.org](mailto:c.roark@ohprs.org)  
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## HPRS Board of Trustees

Major Matthew Them, *Chair*  
Major (ret.) Darryl Anderson, *Vice-Chair*  
Colonel Charles Jones  
Sergeant (ret.) Michael Kasler  
Sergeant Derek Malone  
Lieutenant Christian Niemeyer  
Sergeant Brice Nihiser  
Trooper Cynthia Wilt  
Major (ret.) JP Allen, *Appointed Investment Expert*  
Joseph Thomas, *Appointed Investment Expert*  
Craig Warnimont, *Appointed Investment Expert*

## **Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System**

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