



GERRS Updates

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF GERS LOANS PROGRAM

In the regular meeting of the GERS Board held on August 20, 2015, trustees passed and adopted a resolution by a majority vote to temporarily suspend all GERS loans, effective immediately.

This measure was taken to immediately address the liquidity issues affecting the System in order to ensure the availability of liquid cash to pay benefits and to ensure the survivability of the System.

REFORM LEGISLATION

In a series of public hearings on Bill No. 31-0146 (a measure to amend Title 3 of the VI Code, Chapters 27 and 28A pertaining to the retirement of government employees), Senators heard from GERS officials and consultants as to the state of the retirement system. Retirees and other members also offered suggestions as to how the System could be fixed and their opinion on the proposed legislation.

Bill No. 31-0146 was vetoed by the Governor for typographical errors. The Committee of the Whole met on October 19th and corrected the bill and subsequently passed Bill No. 31-251.

Fall ... Fun, Food,
Football, Festivities
Happy Fall, everyone!

ELECTION OF RETIREES TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The election of retirees to the GERS Board of Trustees will take place November 2nd through December 11th.

2015

Candidate Profiles Now Available
[CLICK HERE](#)



ELECTION OVERVIEW

The election of retirees to the GERS Board of Trustees will take place **November 2 – December 11, 2015**. Only eligible retirees in the St. Thomas/St. John District will be able to participate in the voting process.

The District candidates are: Wilbur K. Callender, M.D. and Nathan Simmonds.

Trustee Judge Edgar Ross will retain his seat on the Board as there were no other candidates in the St Croix District. In accordance with the election procedures, if only one candidate has been nominated for the position by petition, there shall be no election and the candidate shall take office as if elected.

An undisputed leader in Retirement System elections throughout the United States, VR Election Services (VRES), headquartered in Dallas, TX, will once again facilitate the voting process by Mail-Ballot, or Internet as follows:

Mail-Ballot Voting

Upon receiving the ballot package, members will review the instructions and vote by simply making a mark in the response box next to the candidate of their choice.

The member will utilize the included Business Reply Envelope to return their ballot to VR Election Services corporate office for verification and recording. Note that each ballot has a unique ballot control number which is unique to each member. Only one vote per member can be recorded.

Ballots must be postmarked no later than December 11, 2015.

Internet Voting

If this option is selected, members will follow the instructions on the ballot, proceed to the VRES provided secure voting website, enter

their voter ID number and their PIN (personal identification number) and proceed to vote.

At the conclusion of the voting session, members will receive a confirmation page of their choice that they may print.

Be assured that there is complete voter anonymity, accuracy, total security and quality control!



For a replacement ballot or customer service assistance, email help desk at custserv@vres.us or call 1-972-713-2834, Monday—Friday 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. (CT)



St. Thomas/St. John & St. Croix
USVI

Biographical Profile - Wilbur K. Callender



Education and Training

International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plan Trustee Training; 2011
MBA, UVI; 2001
Certificate in Public Health Leadership, UCLA/DC; 2000
Certificate in Healthcare Management, University of North Carolina; 1996
MD, Howard University; 1967
BS, Howard University; 1963

Experience

GERS Board of Trustees; 2011 / Board Chairman; 2015
Medical Practice Owner, St. Thomas, VI; 1975 – present
Stock Market Investor, 1975 - Present
Real Estate Owner/Investor, 1970 - Present
VI Tennis Federation, 1997-2001
Trustee, American Tennis Association, 1998 - 2002
Commissioner of Health, USVI, 1999 -2000
Medical Director, St. Thomas Hospital, 1987 - 1995
CEO/Medical Director, St. Thomas Hospital, 1990 -1992
VI Medical Society Board member, 1984 – 1991
Assistant Professor, Howard University, 1975 -1982
Major, US Army Medical Corps, 1972 -1974
Served on other Boards as Chairman and member

Candidate Questions

- Q: What do you think should be the primary role of a GERS Trustee?
- A: The primary role of a GERS Trustee should be to exercise his/her fiduciary responsibility to the System.
- Q: How do you think you could contribute to GERS as a member of the Board of Trustees?
- A: I have been a member of the Board for the past 4 years, and I have made significant contributions already.
- Q: Do you have any additional comments?
- A: I will be delighted to continue serving on the Board.

ELECTION Q & A

- Q: Who's eligible to vote?
- A: All retirees in the St. Thomas/St. John District who are members of the System and currently receiving a monthly annuity or disability benefit from the GERS as of September 30, 2015.
- Q: When will retirees receive their mail ballots?
- A: You can expect to receive your ballot any time during the week of October 26. They will be mailed directly to eligible retirees by VR Election Services.

Biographical Profile - Nathan Simmonds

Education and Training

BA, Economic and Business Administration; 1970
Certificate, Basic Operational Auditing; 1985
Course: Development Board Finance; 2008
Course: Seed and Venture Capital Finance; 2014
Course: Fundamental of Finance Development & Finance; 2014

Experience

Deputy Chief of Staff and Principal Fiscal & Economic Policy Advisor to Governor
Development and implementation of public policy initiatives (Economic/Small Business Development/Fiscal Policy)

Legislative Post Auditor
Analyze legislative bills and proposals for fiscal impact
Review and analyze Government's annual budget

Candidate Questions

- Q: What do you think should be the primary role of a GERS Trustee?
- A: To provide input and guidance on policies and programs to guide the successful implementation of the pension benefit programs, so that they remain viable and available to all members of the System.
- Q: How do you think you could contribute to GERS as a member of the Board of Trustees?
- A: I believe that my past experiences in the Virgin Islands Government provide me with a great understanding of fiscal and economic policies of the Government and its impact on the GERS.
- Q: Do you have any additional comments?
- A: My service on the Governor's Pension Reform Task Force has provided me invaluable insight into the issues facing the GERS and the solutions needed to address the unfunded liability.

ELECTION Q & A

- Q: If I misplace my ballot, can I request another one?
- A: Yes. VR Election will provide 24/7 systems support and live customer service during the election period.
- Q: If I plan to vote by internet, when will be the earliest that I can cast my vote?
- A: The voting period begins on November 2nd and runs through December 11th.
- Q: Can I drop off my ballot to the GERS Office instead of mailing it?
- A: No. You are required to place the ballot in the self-addressed stamped envelope and drop it in the mail to the election vendor.

mark your calendar!

Create Event
Show in Calendar
Copy

GERS Update!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wilbur K. Callender, M.D., MBA
Chairman

Edgar D. Ross, Esq.
Vice Chairman

Carol Callwood
Vincent G. Liger

Desmond L. Maynard, Esq.
Michael McDonald, Col. (Ret.)
Leona E. Smith

ADMINISTRATOR/CEO

Austin L. Nibbs, CPA, CGMA

GENERAL COUNSEL

Cathy M. Smith, Esq.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LAYOUT /ILLUSTRATION

Lorraine G. Morton

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR

Dorothy B. Smith

MAIL DISTRIBUTION

Jerome Sewer

ST. THOMAS, VI

Financial Literacy Workshop
November 18 | 8:30 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.

Board Meeting
November 19 | 9:30 A.M.

Count Down to Retirement Workshop
December 9 | 8:30 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.

ST. CROIX, VI

Count Down to Retirement Workshop
December 2 | 8:30 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.

Board Meeting
December 17 | 9:30 A.M.

ST. JOHN, VI

Count Down to Retirement Workshop
November 4 | 9:00 A.M.- 3:00 P.M.

ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN, VI

Election of Retiree to GERS Board
November 2—December 11

Board meetings and workshops are held at the GERS offices on St. Thomas & St. Croix unless otherwise indicated.



Contact Us

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www.usvigers.com
24 hours a day

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Mon. - Thurs. 8 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Fri. 8 A.M. - 12 noon

Member Services
Mon. - Fri. 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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St. Thomas, VI 00802-5750

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Congratulations
to our Members and Plan Sponsors
on the occasion of our
56th Anniversary!

October 1, 1959



October 1, 2015

We are 17,000 plus members contributing to the economic prosperity and stability of our Territory!

