



# Retired Candidate

LASERS Board of Trustees Election  
Nominating Petition

**LASERS**  
Louisiana State Employees'  
Retirement System



# Schedule and Rules for 2009 Retired Member Election

Nominations are being accepted for one position on the LASERS Board of Trustees representing retirees. LASERS Trustees are eligible to serve only three consecutive four-year terms, to include any term served as an active or retired member.

## 1. Qualifications

- A retired member candidate for a position as a trustee must be retired by the closing date for nominations, July 14, 2009. The term “retired member” shall not include any person still employed by the state, including retired status under the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). A LASERS retiree who is re-employed by the state pursuant to La. R.S. 11:416 (1) and (3) is still considered a “retired member.”
- Each retired candidate must submit a nominating petition bearing the names and signatures of 25 retired members of LASERS. Each signature must be accompanied by the last four digits of the signatory’s Social Security number.
- Each petition should be accompanied by the candidate’s photo, qualifications and platform.

## 2. Schedule of Election

Elections for retired member trustees are conducted in odd-numbered years. This year, one retired member trustee will be chosen and will serve a four-year term.

<b>March 1, 2009</b> (1st day in March)	Nominations open
<b>July 14</b> (2nd Tuesday in July)	All nominating petitions, platforms and photos due by 4:30 P.M., Central Time
<b>July 17</b> (Friday after 2nd Tuesday in July)	Drawing to determine candidate positions on ballot and candidate workshop
<b>September 25</b> (4th Friday in September)	Ballot packets mailed to retired members
<b>October 23</b> (4th Friday in October)	All ballots and electronic votes must be received by 4:30 P.M., Central Time (no faxed ballots will be accepted)
<b>October 28</b> (Wednesday after 4th Friday in October)	Votes tallied and verified
<b>November 20</b> (Regular November Meeting)	Board certifies and authorizes publication of election results
<b>January 21, 2010</b> (Thursday before regular January meeting)	Orientation for new trustees
<b>Tenative date January 22, 2010</b> (Regular January meeting)	New trustees sworn in prior to the beginning of the January Board meeting



### 3. Candidate Petition, Photo, Qualifications and Platform

All candidates should include the following with their nominating petitions:

- **Candidate Petition**

The petition should contain the names, signatures and the **final four digits of the Social Security number** of at least 25 retired members of LASERS. *Social Security numbers are verified on all petition signees.* It is advisable to obtain extra names in the event that some signatures cannot be verified.

- **Photo**

Please include a professional photograph of yourself with your nominating petition. Digital photographs in JPEG format on CD are preferred. Printed photographs no smaller than 3" x 5" are acceptable. LASERS reserves the right to reject any photo with inappropriate content.

- **Qualifications and Platform**

Please limit your qualifications and platform to no more than 200 words. You may divide the total between your platform and qualifications in any manner you wish. For example: 100 words for qualifications and 100 words for platform. If your qualifications and platform exceed 200 words, LASERS reserves the right to edit for length.

Candidate petition, photo, qualifications and platform must be *received* by LASERS **no later than 4:30 p.m. (Central Time), July 14, 2009**, at:

Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)  
c/o Executive Director  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 44213, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213  
Street Address: 8401 United Plaza Blvd., First Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
*Faxed petitions will not be accepted*

### 4. Responsibilities of the Trustee

- A trustee should have knowledge of, background in, or the ability to understand and utilize investment principles and terminology for a retirement system whose current assets exceed \$8 billion.
- A trustee should become familiar with all applicable retirement laws in order to adequately rule on appeals submitted by members of the retirement system.
- Trustees are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board; assigned committee meetings; workshops and possible legislative hearings relative to retirement matters during regular and special legislative sessions.
- Trustees must act in the sole and exclusive interest of LASERS members and retirees. Breach of fiduciary duty can result in personal liability.

## **5. Election Process**

The executive director of LASERS will respond by letter to each individual who submits a candidate petition, providing notification of eligible status, the date of the drawing to determine ballot position, and the date of the candidate workshop.

After ballot position has been determined, the executive director notifies candidates by letter. Ballot packets are distributed to voting members. All ballots and electronic votes must be received **no later than 4:30 P.M. (Central Time), October 23, 2009.**

**Election officials certify results to the executive director, who reports them at the regular November board meeting. Trustees certify the results and authorize their publication. Unless re-elected, outgoing trustees' terms expire at the conclusion of the December meeting. Newly elected and re-elected trustees are sworn in prior to the beginning of the January board meeting.**

## **6. Retired Member Election Rules**

**(from the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 58, Part I, Chapter 5, Section 503)**

- A. A candidate for a position of retired member trustee on the board of trustees must be a retired member of the system who has been on retired status (not including retired status under the Deferred Retirement Option Plan) by the date on which nominations close. The board of trustees shall accept the name and final four digits of the Social Security number of every candidate nominated by petition of 25 or more retired members of the system and shall place the name of such candidates on the ballot, provided each such candidate meets the requirements for trustee. The petitioning retired members' signatures must be accompanied by the final four digits of their Social Security numbers. The petition should contain all of the information which the candidate wishes to be included in the election brochure.
- B. For purposes of this Chapter, the term retired member shall not include any person still employed by the state but treated as retired under the Deferred Retirement Option Plan.
- C. There shall be a drawing on the Friday following the second Tuesday in July at 11 a.m. Central Daylight Savings Time in the Retirement Systems Building, 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA, to determine the position each candidate shall have on the ballot or election brochure. All candidates may attend or send a representative to the drawing.
- D. Ballots or election brochures shall be distributed to each retired member by the fourth Friday in September. Every retiree member appearing on the June Retiree Master List shall receive a ballot or election brochure for voting.
- E. Each retiree may vote for two candidates during the election when two retiree members are up for election, but may only vote for one candidate during the election where only one retiree member is up for election. If electronic voting methods are utilized, members shall follow the instructions on the election brochure for registering their votes.

- F. Ballots or electronic votes received after the close of business on the fourth Friday in October (4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time) shall be rejected. Ballots must be returned to the address set forth in the instructions on the election brochure.
- G. All valid ballots or electronic votes shall be tallied on the Wednesday following the fourth Friday in October. Envelopes and valid ballots shall be destroyed after the results of the election have been promulgated by the board of trustees.
- H. Tie votes shall be decided by a coin toss held by the executive director in the presence of the candidates affected or the representative they designate.
- I. The executive director shall submit a written report of the election results to the board of trustees no later than the regular November meeting of the board of trustees.
- J. Upon receipt of the results of the election, the board of trustees shall timely promulgate the election and notify the successful candidates of their election and also notify the secretary of state in order that the candidates may take their oath of office and file it with the secretary of state within the time specified by law.
- K. Retiree candidates cannot solicit employees of LASERS to participate in their campaigns, and LASERS' employees cannot participate, or give assistance to any retiree candidate who is running for election or re-election to the board. Retiree candidates shall not solicit or have contact with any vendor or employee of a vendor who is providing LASERS with products or services related to elections of the LASERS Board of Trustees.

**AUTHORITY NOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 11:511 and R.S.11:515.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Treasury, Board of Trustees of the State Employees' Retirement System, LR 22:373 (May 1996), amended LR 23:997 (August 1997), LR 25:1278 (July 1999), LR 26:1490 (July 2000), LR 26:2633 (November 2000), LR 31:947 (April 2005), LR 34:447 (March 2008).

# 2009 LASERS Board of Trustees Election

## Petition for Retired Member Candidate

1 of \_\_\_\_  
(Petition)

### Eligibility Requirement for Candidacy

To be a candidate for a seat on the LASERS Board of Trustees, at least 25 retired LASERS members must endorse your candidacy. Each signature should be accompanied by the *final four digits* of the retired member's Social Security number. It is advisable to obtain more than 25 names, in the eventuality that some signatures cannot be verified. ***Social Security numbers are verified on all petition signatures.*** (Important information is located on the last page of this booklet for street/mailling addresses, or telephone numbers.) ***No faxed petitions accepted. Deadline: 4:30 p.m. (Central Time) July 14, 2009.***

Name:	Social Security Number (final four digits):
Mailing Address:	E-mail Address:
City, State, Zip:	
Daytime Area Code/Telephone:	Date You Joined LASERS:
State Agency From Which You Retired:	Date You Retired:

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Print your name, sign the petition and provide the *final four digits* of your Social Security number.  
*I hereby endorse the above-named person for the position of trustee of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System.*

Name (printed)	Signature	SSN (final four digits)
01.		
02.		
03.		
04.		
05.		
06.		
07.		
08.		
09.		
10.		
11.		

**Candidate's Name:**

**Social Security Number (final four digits):**

Name (printed)	Signature	SSN (final four digits)
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		
16.		
17.		
18.		
19.		
20.		
21.		
22.		
23.		
24.		
25.		
26.		
27.		
28.		
29.		
30.		

Cut on dotted line to return to LASERS



# DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

This completed petition, together with your photo, qualifications, and platform must be received in the office of the LASERS Executive Director no later than **4:30 P.M. (Central Time), Tuesday July 14, 2009.**

## **Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)**

### **Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 44213  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213

### **Street Address:**

First Floor, Louisiana Retirement Systems Building  
8401 United Plaza Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

### **Telephone Numbers for Additional Information:**

**Main:** 225.922.0600, ask for extension 7590

**Toll-free:** 800.256.3000, press 2, press 3-7590

**Board Election Information:** 225.925.7590

**Notes:**

## Notes:

This public document was published at a total cost of \$496. Four hundred copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$496. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is \$496. This document was published by the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, P. O. Box 44213, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213, under authority of La. R.S. 11:511 et seq. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to La. R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

# LASERS

## **Contact Information**

**Location:** 8401 United Plaza Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70809

**Mail:** P.O. Box 44213 • Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213

**Phone:** (toll-free) 800.256.3000 • (local) 225.922.0600

**Web:** [www.lasersonline.org](http://www.lasersonline.org)