



HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

June 2022 Newsletter

Contact Us: 614.431.0781



"Our History Is Our Pride"

2023 COLA and Active Member Contribution Rate

The most difficult decision that the board makes each year involves what levels to set for active member contributions, Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA), and funding of Health Care. In the June board meeting, the decision was made to provide a 3% COLA in 2023, to those members that qualify based on age, reduce active member contributions to 13%, and to make a one-time allocation to the health care fund of \$3.89 million for 2023.

Constitutional Carry Law

In March 2022, Ohio Governor Mike Dewine signed Senate Bill (SB) 215, more commonly referred to as the Constitutional Carry Law, set to take effect June 13. Some retirees may be interested to know how this impacts their rights to carry in the state of Ohio and in other states where reciprocity is granted.

Many of you may be wondering whether you will need to qualify based on the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA), as in the past, or can just carry a concealed weapon based on SB 215 without qualifying. Starting on June 13, 2022, retirees will not be required to use their retirement credentials to carry a concealed handgun in the state of Ohio; although you may continue to do so. You will now be in the category of a “qualifying adult” and allowed to carry a concealed handgun anywhere in Ohio where a Concealed Handgun License holder is permitted to do so. The only stipulation to this is you do not have any disqualifiers specified in the Ohio Revised Code (see R.C. 2923.111, 2923.125, 2923.126, et al.).

If you plan to travel to other states and carry, retirees may still want to consider getting certified at their annual LEOSA certification so you can legally carry in those states that still require you to have a permit. Below is a link to a map of the states that require permits, those that don't require permits, and one that does not require a permit for their residents.

<https://www.usconcealedcarry.com/resources/terminology/types-of-concealed-carry-licensurepermitting-policies/unrestricted/>

Preparing for Inflation

Inflation is an increase in the prices of things we purchase, and therefore, it is also an erosion of the purchasing power of our money. This is when a dollar is no longer worth a dollar, because of inflation eating away at its value. As the rate of inflation goes up, your purchasing power goes down. For instance, the \$100 that you have today has the same purchasing power that \$92 had one year ago, due to the inflation over the last year being over 8%.

When preparing for retirement, it is critically important that inflation is taken into consideration. The inflationary periods are difficult to predict, but the average over time has been somewhat consistent. The number most used by financial planners is 3%.

Inflation has a significant impact on your investments because your investments need to grow at the rate of inflation or higher to retain your purchasing power. The difference between your investments' total rate of return and the inflation rate is called the “real rate of return.” Consider the following examples:

- If your investments are expected to earn at a 5% interest rate and inflation rises by 5%, you will effectively not have earned anything, but only kept up with inflation. But if the inflation for the year is only 3%, you will have made a profit of 2% on your investments.
- If your investments are earning 5% and inflation is at 8%, you will have lost 3%.

When you invest for long-term goals, such as retirement, make sure to account for the impact of inflation on your money. Conservative investments that earn low interest returns may provide safety during these times of volatility in the market.

However, they might not offer enough growth to beat inflation over the long term, leaving you with less purchasing power.

Your investments are of course expected to become more conservative as you get closer to the point where you will need them to supplement your retirement income. Investing appropriately takes many variables into consideration. It is important to consult with a financial advisor to help you set up a long-term investment plan that takes all risk into account.

July 2022 Board/Committee Schedule

On Wednesday, July 20, 2022, committee meetings will begin at 1300 hours, starting with the Health, Wellness, & Disability Committee, followed by the Health Care Funding Committee.

Some committee meetings may be canceled from time to time. Please refer to the HPRS website at www.ohprs.org for the most current meeting dates and times.



WELCOME!

Retired Captain Tony Bradshaw joined the Highway Patrol Retirement System team in June 2022 as the Operations Manager, after finishing his patrol career as the Findlay District Commander. With more than 25 years of service with the Ohio State Highway Patrol, he brings a

unique background of Field Operations and Administrative experience to the system. Holding command positions in Findlay and Columbus District Headquarters, Security and Communications, Technology/LEADS, Fleet and Logistics, Facility Management, Legislative Liaison, Security Services, Fiscal Services, and Public Affairs. Tony's experience has provided him with opportunities to contribute to strategic and executional tactics that will translate exceptionally well with the short-term and long-term operations of the system.

Tony earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Franklin University, completed training at the FBI National Academy, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in police administration from Eastern Kentucky University. He and his wife Lainie reside in the Westerville area where they are raising their two daughters, Kylie and Katie.

Save the Date!

- 2022 Sunbird Reunion, August 20, 2022, All Occasions Banquet Facility
- 2022 Association Annual Meeting & Dinner, October 22, 2022, Aladdin Shrine
- 2023 Snowbird Reunion, February 23 - 25, 2023, Lake Mary, Florida

Retiree Qualification

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, 2021, then you must qualify on or prior to May 1, 2022.

The upcoming scheduled retiree qualifications at the Academy are:

- Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 1300 hours
- Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 1300 hours

You must complete a Weapons Qualifications Record (HP-15C), that includes your personal weapon information, and submit it to Melissa Fellure at 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 call the Academy at 614.466.4896.

Important Numbers For You To Have On Hand

HPRS - (614) 431-0781
VIA Benefits* - (833) 431-1358
Medicare - (800) 633-4227
Medical Mutual of Ohio - (877) 520-6729
Express Scripts** - (866) 472-6249
Aetna Vision - (877) 973-3238
Delta Dental of Ohio - (800) 524-0149

Social Security - (800) 772-1213
Ohio Def. Comp. - (877) 644-6457

*VIA Benefits currently services Medicare-eligible beneficiary recipients only, for health care and prescription coverage. For those not yet Medicare-eligible, health care coverage is provided by HPRS through Medical Mutual of Ohio (MMO).

**Express Scripts coverage through HPRS for non-Medicare enrollment.

Our office will be closed:

- Monday, July 4th - Independence Day

HPRS Staff Email Directory

Carl Roark, Ph.D., *Executive Director* - c.roark@ohprs.org
Michael Press, *CIO/General Counsel* - mpress@ohprs.org
Brian Fike, *Finance Director/Benefits Administrator* - b.fike@ohprs.org
Anthony Bradshaw, *Operations Manager* - a.bradshaw@ohprs.org
Holly Carr, *Executive Assistant* - hcarr@ohprs.org
Doris Blosser, *Benefits Specialist* - dblosser@ohprs.org
Renee Young, *Benefits Specialist* - ryoung@ohprs.org
Charmaine Carter, *System Accountant* - ccarter@ohprs.org
Susan Hay, *Administrative Assistant* - shay@ohprs.org

HPRS Board of Trustees

Captain Matthew Them, *Chair*
Major (ret.) Darryl Anderson, *Vice-Chair*
Colonel Richard Fambro
Sergeant (ret.) Michael Kasler
Trooper Derek Malone
Sergeant Christian Niemeyer
Sergeant Brice Nihiser
Trooper Cynthia Wilt
Major (ret.) JP Allen, *Appointed Investment Expert*
Scott Richter, *Appointed Investment Expert*
Joseph Thomas, *Appointed Investment Expert*

Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System

1900 Polaris Parkway, Suite 201
Columbus, Ohio 43240-4037