

Via Electronic Mail

July 17, 2023

The Board of Trustees
The Police Retirement System of St. Louis
2020 Market Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103

Re: October 1, 2023 Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)

Dear Board Members:

As requested, we are writing to provide information on the cost-of-living adjustments for retirees and beneficiaries of the Police Retirement System. Per Sections 86.253-3 and 86.283-8 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, these adjustments are effective as of October 1st of each year.

This letter was prepared exclusively for the Police Retirement System of St. Louis for the purpose of determining the October 1, 2023 cost-of-living adjustment for the Police Retirement System members. Other users of this letter are not intended users as defined in the Actuarial Standards of Practice, and Cheiron assumes no duty or liability to such other users.

The cost-of-living adjustment is based on the Consumer Price Index City Average (CPI) for the most recent 12-month period for which the index is available. For the 12-month period ending June 2023, this index increased 3.0%.

The adjustment in any one year is limited to 3%, and the cumulative adjustment for any member is limited to 30%. In accordance with past practice, the 30% limit is calculated with respect to the sum of the annual percentage adjustments, not the total compounded adjustment. Because of the 30% limit, there will be no 2023 adjustment for members who retired before October 1, 2005. Members who retired on or after October 1, 2005, but before October 1, 2006 will receive a 0.2% increase, members who retired on or after October 1, 2006 but before October 1, 2007 will receive a 2.9% increase, and members who retired on or after October 1, 2007 will receive a 3.0% increase.

CPI increases above the 3% annual limit are “banked” for each member and used in years when the CPI increase is less than the 3% limit. In addition, if for any other reason, the increase granted is less than the CPI increase, that difference is also banked. Since the CPI increase of 3.0% is equal to the 3.0% limit, members who retired between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2021 will receive the full 3.0% increase but will not add to their accrued banked increases. Members who retired between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 will not have any banked increases. Please see the table on the following page for the total banked increases available to members for future increases.

We will follow-up with a preliminary list of all retirees and beneficiaries who will receive a cost-of-living adjustment as of October 1, 2023.

We recommend that the Board approve the following table regarding adjustments to the continuing payments to retired members and beneficiaries, effective October 1, 2023.

Date of Retirement	Number of Increases	Percentage at October 1, 2023	Total Percentage Remaining After 2023 Increase	Total Banked Increase Available for Future Years
10/01/2005 to 09/30/2006	16	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
10/01/2006 to 09/30/2007	15	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%
10/01/2007 to 09/30/2008	13	3.0%	3.5%	3.5%
10/01/2008 to 09/30/2009	13	3.0%	3.5%	3.5%
10/01/2009 to 09/30/2010	12	3.0%	4.6%	4.6%
10/01/2010 to 09/30/2011	11	3.0%	8.2%	8.2%
10/01/2011 to 09/30/2012	10	3.0%	9.9%	9.1%
10/01/2012 to 09/30/2013	9	3.0%	11.7%	9.1%
10/01/2013 to 09/30/2014	8	3.0%	13.8%	9.1%
10/01/2014 to 09/30/2015	7	3.0%	13.9%	9.1%
10/01/2015 to 09/30/2016	6	3.0%	14.9%	9.1%
10/01/2016 to 09/30/2017	5	3.0%	16.5%	9.1%
10/01/2017 to 09/30/2018	4	3.0%	19.4%	9.1%
10/01/2018 to 09/30/2019	3	3.0%	21.0%	9.1%
10/01/2019 to 09/30/2020	3	3.0%	21.0%	8.5%
10/01/2020 to 09/30/2021	2	3.0%	24.0%	6.1%
10/01/2021 to 09/30/2022	1	3.0%	27.0%	0.0%

In preparing our letter, we relied on information (some oral and some written) supplied by the Police Retirement System staff. This information includes, but is not limited to, the plan provisions and historical COLA information. We performed an informal examination of the obvious characteristics of the data for reasonableness and consistency in accordance with Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 23.

This letter and its contents have been prepared in accordance with generally recognized and accepted actuarial principles and practices, and our understanding of the Code of Professional Conduct and applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice set out by the Actuarial Standards Board, as well as applicable laws and regulations. Furthermore, as a credentialed actuary, I meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the opinion contained in this letter.

This letter does not address any contractual or legal issues. I am not an attorney, and our firm does not provide any legal services or advice.

Please feel free to call me at (703) 893-1456 extension 1038 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Cheiron



Patrick T. Nelson, FSA, CERA, EA, MAAA
Consulting Actuary

cc: Mark Lawson
Kelly Briley
Stephen McElhaney, Cheiron
Michael Noble, Cheiron

