## Firefighters' Retirement System 2007

### **Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**



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## Firefighters Retirement System





#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

November 1, 2007

Board of Trustees Firefighters' Retirement System 3100 Brentwood Drive Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809



I am pleased to present the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. My office is responsible for the management of the system, which was established on January 1, 1980 by Act. No. 434 of 1979. All invested funds, cash, and property are held in the name of FRS for the sole benefit of the membership.

This CAFR was prepared to conform with the principles of governmental accounting and reporting set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data, and the completeness and fairness of the presentation, rests with the management of the system. In addition, management is responsible for maintaining a system of adequate internal controls. The controls are designed to serve the following purposes: (1) To provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary, (2) To maintain the accountability for assets, and (3) To permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

This CAFR is divided into five sections as explained below.

- The Introductory Section, which contains the letter of transmittal, identification of FRS' administrative organization and board of trustees;
- The Financial Section, which contains the opinion of the independent auditors, management's discussion and analysis, the financial statements, schedules, and supplementary financial information regarding the funds administered by FRS
- The Investment Section, which contains information pertaining to the management of the investments of FRS;
- The Actuarial Section, which contains information regarding the financial condition and financial position of the retirement plan administered by FRS; and
- The Statistical Section, which contains information regarding FRS participants and finances.

#### **Plan Characteristics**

FRS is a cost sharing, multiple-employer, governmental defined benefit plan, established by the state legislature on January 1, 1980, to provide retirement and other benefits for Louisiana firefighters. All invested funds, cash, and property are held in the name of FRS for the sole benefit of the membership. A ten member board of trustees governs FRS.

#### <u>Controls</u>

In accordance with the board's and management's goals and policies, FRS maintains a system of internal controls to reasonably assure that assets are properly safeguarded, resources are efficiently and economically employed, and financial information is reliable and accurate. To achieve those objectives, FRS employs advanced computer technology, continuing education for staff, and numerous checks and balances within the control environment. An operating budget for administrative expenses is prepared each year by the staff to address member and employer needs while keeping costs reasonable. The board of trustees must review and approve the annual budget and any changes during the year. In addition to the trustees' approval, the budget must be reviewed by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. An independent certified public accounting firm audits the financial statement to ensure that they conform to generally accepted accounting principles in all material respects.

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis

Management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) begins on page 14 and provides an overview and analysis of the system's basic financial statements. This letter of transmittal complements the MD&A and should be read in conjunction with it.

#### **Investments**

FRS is responsible for the prudent management of an investment portfolio with a market value of \$1.1 billion. Diversification to reduce risk is evident in the allocation of investment assets. FRS holds a wide range of investments such as domestic and international stocks, investment grade and high-yield bonds, shares of a real estate investment trust, holdings in various hedge funds and private equity firms. In addition to these asset classes, FRS obtains diversification through various management styles including growth and value, size of company, and industry selected. For fiscal 2007, FRS assets provided a 17.1% return, net of fees, with three and five year averages of 13.6% and 11.6%, respectively. See the investment section and the MD&A for a more detailed discussion of FRS' investment performance.

#### Funding

The actuary determines the annual funding requirements needed to meet current and future benefit obligations. Calculations of contributions are based on the system's normal cost and amortization of the unfunded accrued liability. The employer contribution rate established by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC) was 15.5% for 2006-2007 and will be 13.75% for 2007-2008. This will be the fourth consecutive year of decreasing employer contribution rates.

As of June 30, 2007, FRS was 86.02% funded compared to 83.66 % as of June 30, 2007. This increase results from favorable market conditions which produced excess investment returns over the assumed valuation interest rate. Net assets held in trust to pay pension benefits at June 30, 2007 totaled \$1.1 billion which is an 18% increase over the prior year.

#### Yearly Highlights and Accomplishments

Our efforts are first and foremost for the benefit of our members. Every department at FRS works together to provide the high quality service that our members deserve. Key accomplishments are summarized below.

- FRS posted a 17.1% return, net of fees for the year ended June 30, 2007. This is the fourth consecutive year of double digit returns for FRS.
- FRS crossed the \$1 billion level in net assets.
- FRS granted a cost of living raise to all retirees for the second consecutive year.
- FRS began offering tax exclusion benefits for various insurance premiums deducted from retiree checks in accordance with the Pension Protection Act of 2006.

#### Acknowledgements and Considerations

The FRS staff and myself would like to thank the board of trustees for their support and dedication. Hard work by the FRS board, staff, and professional consultants resulted in another year of increased investment earnings, reduced employer contributions, reduced unfunded accrued liability, and increase benefits for retirees. The preparation of this report is made possible by the commitment and dedication of the entire FRS staff.

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Steven Stockstill Executive Director

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Board of Trustees



Charlie Fredieu Board Chairman Retiree Representative



Mayor Clarence Hawkins Board Vice Chairman LMA Representative



Stacy Birdwell PFFA Representative



Mayor Jimmy Durbin LMA Representative



Chief Paul Smith PFFA Representative

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Honorable John N Kennedy State Treasurer

Honorable Pete Schneider, III Chairman, House Retirement



Honorable Butch Gautreaux Chairman, Senate Retirement



Barbara Goodson Division of Administration



Chief Sammy Halphen Fire Chief Representative

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM **Administrative Staff**



Steven Stockstill **Executive Director** 



Kelli Chandler, CPA



Jenna Rome Controller/Administrator Admin. Asst/Benefit Analyst



Jason Starns Benefit Analyst 3



Rita Smith Accounting Technician



Debbie Charleville Administrative Specialist 3

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Professional Consultants

#### ACTUARY

G.S. Curran & Co.

#### AUDITORS

Postlethwaite & Netterville, APAC, CPA

#### LEGAL CONSULTANTS

Klausner & Kuffman Baron & Budd Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossman LLP

#### LARGE CAP EQUITY ADVISORS

Black Rock Freeman Associates Northern Trust

#### SMALL-MID CAP EQUITY ADVISORS

AXA Rosenberg Investment Management

#### INTERNATIONAL EQUITY ADVISORS

Thornburg International Equity LSV International Equity Fisher Investments

#### DOMESTIC FIXED INCOME ADVISORS

PIMCO Orleans Capital

#### HIGH YIELD FIXED INCOME ADVISORS

**Regions Morgan Keegan** 

#### EMERGING MARKET FIXED INCOME

Ashmore Investment Management

#### **REIT ADVISORS**

Invesco

#### **HEDGE FUND ADVISORS**

The Clinton Group Ironwood Partners Lighthouse Diversified Scoggin Capital Management GMT Capital Corporation Argonaut Global Emory Partners Commonwealth Advisors

#### PRIVATE EQUITY ADVISORS

Murphree Venture Louisiana Fund I Diversified Trust Company Americus Real Estate Fund Montagu Newhall Sentinel Real Estate Corp. DuPont Capital Management JP Morgan India Fund Land Baron Investments

#### SECURITIES LENDING ADVISORS

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#### **GLOBAL CUSTODIAN**

JPMorgan Chase Bank

#### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE CONSULTANTS

**Consulting Services Group** 

#### IT CONSULTANTS Southwest Computer Bureau

# Firefighters Retirement System







#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees Firefighters' Retirement System Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have audited the statement of plan net assets of the Firefighters' Retirement System as of June 30, 2007, and the related statement of changes in plan net assets for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the System's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the plan net assets of the Firefighters' Retirement System as of June 30, 2007, and the changes in the plan net assets for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management's Discussion and Analysis and the Supplementary Information, Schedule of Funding Progress and Schedule of Employer Contributions and Other Contributing Entities as listed as Supplementary Information in the Table of Contents are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements of the Firefighters Retirement System. The accompanying financial information as listed as Supplementary Information in the Table of Contents as Trustees' Per Diem and Administrative Expense Schedule is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements, and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 10, 2007 on our consideration of the Firefighters' Retirement System's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Postlethuaite ! Netterville

Baton Rouge, Louisiana December 10, 2007



#### REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Trustees Firefighters' Retirement System Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the Firefighters' Retirement System, State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated December 10, 2007. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Firefighters' Retirements System's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Firefighters' Retirement System's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record or process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that result in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph in this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. We noted other matters involving internal control over financial reporting that we have reported to management in a separate letter dated December 10, 2007.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Firefighters' Retirement System's, financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended for the information and use of the Board of Trustees and management of Firefighters' Retirement System and the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Postlethwaite ; Nettewille

Baton Rouge, Louisiana December 10, 2007

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Management Discussion and Analysis

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The discussion and analysis of the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS) financial performance provides an overview of the financial activities and funding conditions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. Please review it in conjunction with the Financial Statements which begin on page 21.

- FRS' net assets held in trust increased by \$174 million, or 18%.
- FRS' investment holdings increased from \$937 million to \$1,077 million which is an increase of \$140 million or 14%.
- The rate of return on the estimated fair value of FRS investments was 17.2%, net of fees in 2007 as compared to 12.3% for 2006.
- The system's funded ratio improved to 86.02% in 2007, which is up from 83.66% in 2006.
- The unfunded actuarial accrued liability decreased from \$178 million in 2006 to \$167 million in 2007, a decrease of \$11 million or 6%.
- FRS had an increase in total contributions of \$1.7 million or 5% and also experienced an overall increase in benefit payments and transfers of \$4.5 million or 10%.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the FRS financial reporting which is comprised of the following components:

- 1. Basic financial statements
- 2. Notes to the basic financial statements
- 3. Required supplementary information
- 4. Other supplementary schedules

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Management Discussion and Analysis

The statement of plan net assets reports the pension fund's assets, liabilities, and resulting net assets held in trust for pension benefits. It discloses the financial position of FRS as of June 30, 2007. The statement of changes in net assets reports the results of the pension fund's operations during the year disclosing the additions to and deductions from the plan net assets. The notes to the financial statements provide additional information and insight that is essential to gaining a full understanding of the data provided in the statements.

- Note 1 provides a general description of FRS, information regarding plan membership, and plan benefit provisions.
- Note 2 provides a summary of significant accounting policies and plan asset matters; including the basis of accounting; methods used to value investments; methods used to value property and equipment; and adoption of new accounting principles.
- Note 3 provides information regarding required reserves.
- Note 4 provides information regarding member and employer contribution requirements.
- Note 5 describes investments, including a discussion of credit risk, interest rate risk and foreign currency risk.
- Note 6 provides information regarding securities lending transactions.
- Note 7 provides information regarding notes receivable from merged systems.
- Note 8 provides a summary of the property and equipment of FRS including depreciation and net holding amounts.
- Note 9 provides a summary of the concentration of credit risks.
- Note 10 provides information regarding any potential contingencies of FRS.

Required supplementary information consists of two schedules and related notes concerning actuarial information and the funded status of FRS. Supporting schedules include information on administrative expense and board compensation.

### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Management Discussion and Analysis

#### STATEMENT OF PLAN NET ASSETS

#### TABLE 1 PLAN NET ASSETS (in thousands)

	2007	2006
Cash and Investments	\$1,131,085	\$959,048
Receivables	5,147	5,980
Capital Assets	931	1,771
Notes Receivable	5,590	6,142
Prepaid Expense and	7	7
Other		
Total Assets	\$1,142,760	\$972,948
Liabilities	4,533	9,143
Plan Net Assets	\$1,138,227	\$963,805

FRS' net assets increased by \$174 million year over year. This increase was primarily a result of an increase in investment holdings by \$141 million and an increase in cash holdings by \$32 million.

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PLAN NET ASSETS

Additions to FRS' net assets include employer and member contributions, investment income, and an allocation from the insurance premium tax fund. Member contributions increased \$1.2 million or 11.2 %, and employer contributions decreased \$1.3 million or 5.1%. The insurance premium tax fund apportionment increased \$599 thousand or 3.3%, and net investment income increased \$57.6 million or 55%. Finally, other operating revenues increased by \$3.5 million due to the gain on the sale of FRS property.

#### TABLE 2 ADDITIONS TO PLAN NET ASSETS (in thousands)

	2007	2006
Contributions	\$38,095	\$36,388
Net Investment Income	161,858	104,279
Insurance Premium Taxes	18,797	18,197
Other Operating Revenues	4,084	491
Total Additions	\$222,834	\$159,355

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Management Discussion and Analysis

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PLAN NET ASSETS (continued)

Deductions from plan assets increased \$4.4 million or 9.9%. This increase was primarily due to increases in retirement benefits of \$4.4 million,

	2007	2007
Retirement Benefits	\$43,955	\$39,510
Disability Benefits	3,321	2,983
Refunds	917	840
Net Transfers	(288)	49
Administrative Expenses	507	668
Total Deductions	\$48,412	\$44,050

TABLE 3
DEDUCTIONS FROM PLAN NET ASSETS
(in thousands)

#### INVESTMENTS

FRS is responsible for the prudent management of funds held in trust for the exclusive benefit of our members' pensions. Funds are invested to achieve maximum returns without exposing retirement assets to unacceptable risks. Because investment income is vital to FRS' current and continued financial stability, trustees have a fiduciary responsibility to act prudently and discretely when making investment decisions.

During the current year, FRS further reduced its exposure to fixed income and increased its alternative investment holdings. See the investment section starting on page 44 for more information regarding FRS' investments.

The following table summarizes the investment return by asset class for the year ended June 30, 2007, for the trailing three years, and trailing five years.

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Management Discussion and Analysis

	Current	Trailing 3	Trailing 5
	Year	Years	Years
US Large Cap			
Growth	18.4%	14.8%	13.2%
Value	19.1%	12.8%	11.2%
Index	20.8%	11.8%	10.8%
US Mid/Small Cap			
Value	14.6%	15.6%	17.3%
Index	18.5%	15.2%	14.2%
International Equity			
Core	32.6%	26.2%	21.1%
Value	32.9%	26.4%	23.6%
GARP	26.7%	21.9%	17.0%
Fixed Income			
Core	6.4%	4.4%	5.0%
High-Yield	2.2%	8.2%	10.4%
Emerging Markets	15.2%	18.5%	18.6%
Alternatives			
REITS	22.6%	N/A	N/A
Hedge Funds	12.2%	N/A	N/A
Private Equity	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### TABLE 4 INVESTMENT RETURNS BY ASSET CLASS

#### FUNDING STATUS

Of primary concern to most pension plan participants is the amount of money available to pay benefits. An actuarial valuation of assets and liabilities is performed annually.

An indicator of funding status is the ratio of the actuarial present value of the assets to the actuarial present value of future benefits when using the entry age normal method. An increase in this percentage over time usually indicates a plan is becoming financially stronger. However, a decrease will not necessarily indicate a plan is in financial decline. Changes in the financial markets and the collection of actuarially required contributions also have a significant impact on the funding status of the system.

The following chart shows the level of the unfunded accrued liability (in millions) over time. See the actuarial section for more information regarding the funded status of the system.



#### **Unfunded Accrued Liability**

Unfunded Accrued Liability

#### **CONTACTING THE PLANS' FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

The financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, and system members with an overview of the system's finances and the prudent exercise of the Board's oversight. If you have any questions regarding this report or need financial information, please either visit our website at <u>www.lafirefightersret.com</u> or contact the FRS Controller, Kelli Chandler, at 3100 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

#### STATEMENT OF PLAN NET ASSETS

#### <u>JUNE 30, 2007</u>

#### ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$53,630,598
Receivables	
Employer	2,312,677
Employee	1,125,898
Interest and dividends	1,708,698
Total receivables	5,147,273
Investments at fair value	
U.S. government securities	53,173,582
Corporate bonds	101,079,586
Common stocks	616,015,451
Alternative investments	307,184,791
Total investments at fair value	1,077,453,410
Property, building, equipment and fixtures, net	
of accumulated depreciation of \$387,265	931,321
7% notes receivable from merged systems	5,590,387
Prepaid expenses and other	7,548
TOTAL ASSETS =	\$1,142,760,537
LIABILITIES	
Pending investment trades	3,216,400
Accounts payable	1,317,056
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,533,456
NET ASSETS HELD IN TRUST FOR PENSION BENEFITS	\$1,138,227,081

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

#### FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM <u>STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PLAN NET ASSETS</u> <u>YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007</u>

#### ADDITIONS

Contributions	
Employer	\$23,989,079
Employee	12,343,832
Mergers	1,761,986
Total Contributions	38,094,897
Investment Income	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	140,700,375
Interest and dividends	25,814,903
	166,515,278
Less investment expenses	4,656,788
Net investment income	161,858,490
Interest from notes receivable	417,091
Gain on sale of assets	3,638,215
State appropriations from insurance premium taxes	18,796,831
Rental income	28,391
Total additions	222,833,915
DEDUCTIONS	
Retirement benefits	43,955,093
Disability benefits	3,321,152
Refunds to terminated employees	916,780
Transfers to (from) other systems	(287,848)
Administrative expenses	506,879
Total deductions	48,412,056
NET INCREASE	174,421,859
NET ASSETS HELD IN TRUST FOR PENSION BENEFITS	
Beginning of year	963,805,222
End of year	\$1,138,227,081
The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

#### 1. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following brief description of the Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS or the System) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the appropriate statutes for more complete information.

#### <u>General</u>

FRS is a cost sharing, multiple-employer, governmental defined benefit pension plan covering firefighters employed by any municipality, parish, or fire protection district of the State of Louisiana, under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:2251 through 2269, effective January 1, 1980. Membership in FRS is a condition of employment for those fulltime firefighters who are employed by municipal, parish or fire protection districts and who earn more than \$375 per month.

#### **Reporting Entity**

FRS is not a component unit of the State of Louisiana Consolidated Annual Financial Report. The accompanying financial statements reflect the activity of the System.

Under Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity* (GASB 14), the definition of a reporting entity is based primarily on the concept of financial accountability. In determining its component unit status, FRS administrators considered the following:

- FRS exists for the benefit of current and former firefighters who are members of the System;
- Four of the ten Board members are elected by the employees who participate in the System, and
- FRS is funded by the investment of contributions from the members and member employers who are obligated to make the contributions to FRS based upon actuarial valuations.

FRS itself has no component units as defined under GASB 14.

FRS was created by the State of Louisiana and is governed by a ten-member Board of Trustees (the Board). The Board is responsible for administering the assets of FRS and for making policy decisions regarding investments. Two of the Trustees are elected by the professional firefighters association, one Trustee is elected by the fire chiefs and, one is a retired firefighter. Two are appointed by the Louisiana Municipal Association. The remaining membership of the Board consists of one member from the State Treasurer's office, one from the Division of Administration and the chairmen of the Senate and House Retirement Committees.

#### 1. PLAN DESCRIPTION (continued)

#### <u>Plan Membership</u>

Employer and employee membership data at June 30, 2007 is as follows:

Employer Members	
Cities	65
Parishes	13
Special districts	37
Total employer members	<u>   115                                </u>
Employee Members	
Current retirees and beneficiaries	1,555
Drop participants	134
Terminated vested participants	54
Terminated (due a refund)	298
Active plan participants	<u>3,632</u>
Total employee members	5,673

#### <u>Plan Benefits</u>

Employees with 20 or more years of service who have attained age 50, or employees who have 12 years of service who have attained age 55, or 25 years of service at any age are entitled to annual pension benefits equal to 3 1/3 % of their average final compensation based on the 36 consecutive months of highest pay multiplied by their total years of service, not to exceed 100%. Employees may elect to receive their pension benefits in the form of a joint and survivor annuity.

If employees terminate before rendering 12 years of service, they forfeit the right to receive the portion of their accumulated plan benefits attributable to their employer's contributions. Benefits are payable over the employees' lives in the form of a monthly annuity. Employee may elect an unreduced benefit or any of six options at retirement. The options are as follows:

- 1. At death, their beneficiary will receive a lump sum payment based on the present value of the employee's annuity account balance.
- 2. At death, their beneficiary will receive a life annuity equal to the employee's reduced retirement allowance.
- 3. At death, their beneficiary will receive a life annuity equal to ½ of the employee's reduced retirement allowance.

#### 1. <u>PLAN DESCRIPTION</u> (continued)

#### Plan Benefits (continued)

- 4. Any other benefit certified by the actuary and approved by the Board of Trustees that will be equivalent in value to the employee's retirement allowance limited to a spouse and/or minor children.
- 5. The member can select a reduced option 2 benefit. However, if the beneficiary predeceases the retiree, the benefit will convert to the maximum. This option is limited to a spouse and/or minor children or handicapped children.
- 6. The member can select a reduced option 3 benefit. However, if the beneficiary predeceases the retiree, the benefit will convert to the maximum. This option is limited to a spouse and/or minor children.

#### **Death Benefits**

If an active employee dies and is not eligible for retirement, his survivors shall be paid:

- 1. If the employee not eligible to retire dies in the line of duty, their spouse will receive monthly, an annual benefit equal to 2/3 of the employee's average final compensation. If death is not in the line of duty, the spouse will receive monthly, an annual benefit equal to 3% of the member's average final compensation multiplied by his total years of service; however, the benefit shall not be less than 40%, or more than 60% of the employee's average final compensation.
- 2. Children of deceased employees will receive the greater of \$200 or 10% of the member's final average compensation per month until reaching the age of 18 or until the age of 22, if enrolled full time in an institution of higher education. The surviving totally physically handicapped or mentally retarded child of a deceased employee, regardless of age, shall receive the benefits as long as they are dependent on the surviving spouse.
- 3. If an employee, who is eligible to retire, dies before retiring, the designated beneficiary shall be paid under option 2, survivor benefit equal to member's benefit.

#### <u>Disability Benefits</u>

If an eligible member is officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board, he shall receive the greater retirement, if eligible or disability benefits as follows:

1. Any member totally disabled from injury received in the line of duty, shall be paid, on a monthly basis, an annual pension of 60% of the average final compensation being received at the time of the disability.

#### 1. **PLAN DESCRIPTION** (continued)

#### **Disability Benefits** (continued)

- 2. Any member of the System who has become disabled or incapacitated because of continued illness or as a result of any injury received, even though not in the line of duty, and who has 5 years of creditable service, but is not eligible for retirement under the provisions of R. S. 11:2256 may apply for retirement under the provisions of R.S. 11:2258 and shall be retired on 75% of the retirement salary to which he would be entitled under R.S. 11:2256 if he were otherwise eligible there under 25% of the member's average salary, whichever is greater.
- 3. Any retired member or DROP plan participant who becomes disabled for any reason provided for by law shall be permitted to apply for conversion of a service retirement to a service connected disability retirement under R.S. 11:2258(B)(1)(e).
- 4. Should a member who is on disability retirement die and leave a surviving spouse, the surviving spouse shall receive a benefit of \$200 per month. When the member takes disability retirement, he may, in addition, take an actuarially reduced benefit in which case the member's surviving spouse shall receive 50% of the disability benefit being paid immediately prior to the death of the disabled retiree. If the surviving spouse remarries prior to age 55, such benefits shall cease; however, the benefits shall resume upon subsequent divorce or death of the new spouse, and the approval of the board of trustees.

#### **Deferred Retirement Option Plan**

After completing 20 years of creditable service and age 50 or 25 years at any age, a member may elect to participate in the deferred retirement option plan (DROP) for up to 36 months.

Upon commencement of participation in the deferred retirement option plan, employer and employee contributions to the System cease. The monthly retirement benefit that would have been payable is paid into the deferred retirement option plan account.

Upon termination of employment, a participant in the program shall receive, at his option, a lump-sum payment from the account or an annuity based on the deferred retirement option plan account balance in addition to his regular monthly benefit.

If employment is not terminated at the end of the 36 months, the participant resumes regular contributions to FRS.

No payments may be made from the deferred retirement option plan account until the participant retires.

#### 1. **PLAN DESCRIPTION** (continued)

#### Deferred Retirement Option Plan (continued)

During the year ended June 30, 2007, \$10,331,043 was credited to deferred retirement option plan accounts on behalf of 134 participants.

#### **Initial Benefit Option**

Effective June 16, 1999, members eligible to retire and who do not choose to participate in DROP may elect to receive, at the time of retirement, an initial benefit option (IBO) in an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. Such amounts may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at the same rate as the DROP account.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of Accounting**

The System's financial statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles accepted in the United States using the accrual basis of accounting. Contributions are recognized in the period in which the employee is compensated for services. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable. Investment purchases and sales are recorded as of their trade date.

#### **Cash and Investments**

Cash represents amounts on deposit with the custodian fiscal agent banks, and/or the investment advisors. Under state law, FRS may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the Union, or the laws of the United States. FRS's permissible investments are set forth in R.S. 11:262-263 and are further limited in accordance with investment guidelines promulgated by the board of trustees. FRS's statement of investment guidelines authorizes investments in various investment products, including bonds issued by the United States Government or its agencies, mortgage-backed securities and corporate bonds rated BAA or better, domestic equities, common stock of foreign publicly held companies and other investments as approved by the board of trustees.

The investment policy of the board limits the amount of cash within the portfolio to no more than 10% of the assets under management. The average quality of the portfolio must be at least an "A". No single holding other than U.S. Government or its agencies is to account for more than 5% of the market value of the total portfolio, nor shall any holdings of the U.S. Government or its agencies exceed 10% of the total portfolio.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Cash and Investments (continued)

The equity investments must be domestic securities registered on a national exchange regulated under Title 1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All international equities shall be common stock of publicly traded companies on recognized trading exchanges. No single equity holding is to exceed 8% of the market value of a manager's portfolio.

As required by GASB No. 25, Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension plans and Note Disclosures for Defined Contribution Plans, investments in fixed-income securities and common stock are reported at fair market value based on quoted market prices when available. Investments that do not have an established market value are reported at estimated fair value. Interest income is recognized on the accrual basis as earned.

#### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of additions to and deductions from plan net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at historical cost less an allowance for depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of 40 years for buildings and 3 to fifteen years for equipment and furniture. Expenditures for major renewals and betterments that extend the useful lives of property and equipment are capitalized. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred.

#### Accumulated Leave

The employees of the System accumulate unlimited amounts of annual and sick leave at varying rates as established by state regulations. Upon resignation or retirement, unused annual leave of up to 300 hours can be paid to employees at the employees' rate of pay. The liability for accrued annual leave of up to 300 hours is included in other liabilities.

#### 3. CONTRIBUTIONS AND RESERVES

Contributions for all members are established by statute at 8.0% of earnable compensation. The contributions are deducted from the member's salary and remitted by the participating agency. For the year ended June 30, 2007, employer contributions were 15.5% of covered payroll.

#### 3. **<u>CONTRIBUTIONS AND RESERVES</u>** (continued)

Administrative costs of the System are financed through contributions and earnings. According to state statute, contributions for all employers are actuarially determined each year. The System also receives funds from insurance premium taxes each year as set forth by Louisiana statutes. This income is used as additional employer contributions.

#### <u>Reserves</u>

Use of the term "reserve" by the FRS indicates that a portion of the net assets is legally restricted for a specific future use. The nature and purpose of these reserves are explained below. Overall, the System is 86.02% funded.

#### Expense Fund Reserve

The Expense Fund Reserve provides for general and administrative expenses of the System and those expenses not funded through other specific legislative appropriations. Funding consists of transfers from the pension accumulation reserve and is made as needed.

#### <u>Annuity Savings</u>

The Annuity Savings is credited with contributions made by members of the System. When a member terminates his service, or upon his death, before qualifying for a benefit, the refund of his contributions is made from this reserve. If a member dies and there is a survivor who is eligible for a benefit, the amount of the member's accumulated contributions is transferred from the Annuity Savings to the Annuity Reserve to provide part of the benefits. The Annuity Savings per the actuarial report as of June 30, 2007 is \$102,726,606 and is fully funded.

#### Pension Accumulation Reserve

The Pension Accumulation Reserve consists of contributions paid by employers, interest earned on investments and any other income not covered by other accounts. This reserve account is charged annually with an amount, determined by the actuary, to be transferred to the Annuity Reserve to fund retirement benefits for existing recipients. It is also relieved when expenditures are not covered by other accounts. The Pension Accumulation Reserve per the actuarial report as of June 30, 2007 is \$526,190,195 and is 89% funded.

#### <u>Annuity Reserve</u>

The Annuity Reserve consists of the reserves for all pensions, excluding cost-of-living increases granted to retired members and is the reserve account from which such pensions and annuities are paid. Survivors of deceased beneficiaries also receive benefits from this reserve account. The Annuity Reserve per the actuarial report as of June 30, 2007 is \$449,287,937 and is fully funded.

#### 3. **<u>CONTRIBUTIONS AND RESERVES</u>** (continued)

#### **Deferred Retirement Option Account**

The Deferred Retirement Option Account consists of the reserves for all members who, upon retirement eligibility, elect to deposit into this account an amount equal to the member's monthly benefit if he had retired. A member can only participate in the program for three years, and upon termination may receive his benefits in a lump sum payment or by a true annuity. The deferred retirement option per the actuarial report as of June 30, 2007 is \$58,918,942 and is fully funded.

#### **Initial Benefit Option Plan Account**

The Initial Benefit Option Plan Account consists of the reserves for all members who, upon retirement eligibility, elect to deposit into this account an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. Such amounts may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at the same rate as the DROP account. The Initial Benefit Option per the actuarial report as of June 30, 2007 is \$1,103,401 and is fully funded.

#### 4. **<u>REQUIRED CONTRIBUTIONS</u>**

FRS funding policy provides for periodic employer contributions at actuarially determined rates that are expressed as percentages of annual covered payroll, and are sufficient to accumulate assets to pay benefits when due. The employer contribution rate is determined using the entry age actuarial funding method. FRS amortizes the unfunded liability over a closed 30-year period based on level payments. Subsequent changes to the unfunded liability are amortized over a 15 year period if related to gains and losses, changes in assumptions, or changes in benefits. Amortization of unfunded liabilities arising from mergers is over 30 years unless the actuarial committee specifies a shorter period.

Contributions totaling \$57 million (\$24 million employer and \$12 million employee, \$2 million merger, and \$19 million from the insurance premium tax fund) were made in accordance with actuarially determined contribution requirements determined through an actuarial valuation performed at June 30, 2007.

Significant actuarial assumptions used to compute contribution requirements are: (1) a rate of return on the investment of present and future assets of 7.5% per year compounded annually; (2) projected salary increases that vary according to years of service ranging from 14.7% in the first year of service to 5.3% after 14 years; (3) pre- and post mortality life expectancies of participants based on the 1994 Uninsured Pensioner Mortality Table; (4) rates of withdrawal and termination from active service before retirement for reasons other than death (based on a table in the actuarial report which is based on the System's experience); and (5) rates of disability (increasing from 0.105% at age 34 and below to 0.3416% at age 60 and above). The foregoing actuarial assumptions are based on the presumptions that the plan will continue.

#### 5. CASH AND INVESTMENTS

#### **Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure**

Statement number 40 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB Statement No. 40), *Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures* established and modified disclosure requirements related to investment risk. This section describes various types of investment risk and FRS exposure to each type. The tables presented include disclosures regarding credit risk, interest rate risk and foreign currency risk in accordance with GASB Statement No. 40 and are designed to inform statement of net asset users about investment risks that could affect FRS' ability to meet obligations. These tables classify investment risk by type, while the statement of net assets present investments by asset class. Therefore, totals shown on the tables may not be comparable to the amounts shown for each individual asset class on the statement of net assets. Standard & Poor's rates investment grade securities, using AAA, AA, A, and BBB. Securities with these ratings are considered financially secure. For non-investment grade securities, the ratings BB, B, CCC, CC, C and D are used. These ratings indicate that the security may be "vulnerable" and as such, is regarded as having vulnerable characteristics that may outweigh its strengths.

Deposits are carried at cost. The carrying amount of deposits is separately displayed on the balance sheet as "cash and cash equivalents". At year-end, the carrying amount of the System's deposits was \$4,859,522 and the bank balance was \$4,927,244. All of the bank balance was covered by federal depository insurance or collateral pledged in the name of the System.

The System's short-term funds may be invested in cash equivalent securities, which are defined as any fixed income investments with less than one year with ratings by Moody's and S&P of A or better, Money Market Funds, or custodian bank short-term investment funds.

#### Louisiana Asset Management Pool

The System also invested \$35.6 million at June 30, 2007, in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP), Inc. a local government investment pool. LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the state of Louisiana. Only local government entities having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in accordance with LA-R.S. 33:2955.

LAMP is a 2a7-like investment pool. The following facts are relevant for 2a7 like investment pools:

Credit risk: LAMP is rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's.

Custodial credit risk: LAMP participants' investments in the pool are evidenced by shares of the pool. Investments in pools should be disclosed, but not categorized because they

#### 5. **CASH AND INVESTMENTS** (continued)

#### Louisiana Asset Management Pool (continued)

are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form. FRS's investment is with the pool, not the securities that make up the pool; therefore, no public disclosure is required.

Concentration of credit risk: Pooled investments are excluded from the five percent disclosure requirement.

Interest rate risk: 2a7-like investment pools are excluded from this disclosure requirement, per paragraph 15 of the GASB 40 statements.

Foreign currency risk: Not applicable to 2a7-like pools.

The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value based on quoted market rates. The fair value is determined on a weekly basis by LAMP and the value of the position in the external investment pools is the same as the value of the pool shares.

LAMP, Inc. is subject to the regulatory oversight of the state treasurer and the board of directors. LAMP is not registered with the SEC as an investment company.

#### **Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses**

During the year, the System's investments (including those bought, sold, and held during the year) appreciated in value by \$140.7 million which was comprised of \$77.2 million in realized gains and \$63.5 in unrealized gains for the year ended June 30, 2007.

#### 5. <u>CASH AND INVESTMENTS (continued)</u>

The following table presents the fair value of investments permissible under the rules, objectives and guidelines of the System as of June 30, 2007:

Investment Type	<u>Fair Value</u>
Asset backed obligations	12,468,049
Closed end equity mutual funds	62,073
Common stocks	253,945,397
Corporate bonds and notes	36,546,574
Federal agency securities	37,088,457
Foreign bonds	1,198,951
Foreign stock	256,554,694
Government National Mortgage Association Pools	1,991,766
Limited partnerships	50,969,628
Municipal/territory bonds	1,020,005
Open end equity mutual funds	182,872,131
Open end fixed income mutual funds	51,329,173
Other common funds	137,470,313
Private Real Estate	7,000,000
Real estate investment trusts	34,279,408
Rights/warrants	46,598
Small business administration loans	8,218,085
Short term investments	2,514,698
U.S. Treasury bonds and notes	1,749,449
U.S. Treasury Inflation Index	<u>127,961</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,077,453,410</u>
## 5. <u>CASH AND INVESTMENTS (continued)</u>

#### **Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Exposure to custodial credit risk arises when securities are uninsured, or are not registered in the name of the System, and are held by either the counterparty or the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the System's name.

Investments in external investment pools, mutual funds, and other pooled investments are not exposed to custodial credit risk because of their natural diversification and the diversification required by the Securities and Exchange Commission. FRS had no custodial credit risk as of June 30, 2007.

# <u>Credit Risk</u>

Credit risk is defined as the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The standardized rating systems are a good tool with which to assess credit risk on debt obligations. The System requires that debt obligations be investment grade at time of purchase (BBB or higher as rated by Standard and Poor's), unless otherwise authorized by the board of trustees, and that the average quality of the portfolio be at least A.

The following table is provided for use in determining the Systems exposure to credit risk.

Standard and Poor's Rating	Fair Value
ААА	24,629,985
AA	608,007
AA-	3,069,634
A+	6,401,931
Ā	6,432,117
A-	5,278,123
BBB+	7,731,257
BBB	5,028,224
BBB-	1,138,060
B+	1,017,043
В	1,061,062
B	734,093
Not rated	57,851,413
TOTAL	120,980,949

#### 5. **CASH AND INVESTMENTS** (continued)

#### **Concentration of Credit risk**

Concentration of credit risk is defined as the inability to recover the value of deposits, investments, or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party caused by lack of diversification. The System's investment policy limits the concentration to any one issue, other than U.S. Government or U.S. Government agency bonds or notes, of five percent of the fair value of total investments. At June 30, 2007, the System had exposure of less than five percent in any single investment issue.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is defined as the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The risk is applicable to debt investments with fair values that are sensitive to changes in interest rates. One indicator of the measure of interest rate risk is the dispersion of maturity dates for debt instruments.

The following table shows the System's fixed income investments and maturities in actively-managed accounts at June 30, 2007:

		INVESTMENT MATURITIES (in years)				
<u>INVESTMENT</u> <u>TYPE</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	Less than	<u>1-5</u>	<u>5-10</u>	Greater than <u>10</u>	
Asset-backed obligations	12,468,049	0	637,588	608,007	11,222,454	
Corporate bonds and notes	36,085,414	2,351,898	13,784,223	13,103,164	6,846,129	
Federal agency securities	37,088,458	26,113	0	128,540	36,933,805	
Foreign bonds	1,198,951	0	0	0	1,198,951	
Government national mortgage association pools	1,991,766	0	26,702	17,406	1,947,658	
Municipal/territory bonds	1,020,005	0	0	0	1,020,005	
Small business administration loans	8,218,085	0	135,015	0	8,083,070	
U.S. treasury bonds and notes	1,877,410	127,961	1,398,026	0	351,423	

#### 5. CASH AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

## Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment on deposit. At June 30, 2007, FRS international investments were limited to participation in external investment pools of international equity investment managers. There were no direct investments in international fixed-income securities.

#### Alternative Investments

At June 30, 2007 FRS had investments in limited partnership arrangements which are listed in the accompanying financial statements as alternative investments and as of June 30, 2007 had a cost basis of \$275,119,223 and an estimated fair value of \$307,184,791.

# 6. <u>SECURITIES LENDING</u>

The System is authorized by its board of trustees to operate a securities lending program. This program is designed to produce supplemental income on investments with little or no additional risk. All securities are available for loan to pre-approved securities dealers. Securities dealers must meet specific criteria to be approved. Securities are loaned for cash or securities issued by the U.S. Government or its agencies. FRS cannot pledge or sell securities unless the borrower defaults. U.S. Securities are loaned for 102% of the fair value of the loan, plus accrued interest. Other securities are loaned for collateral valued at 105% of the fair value of the securities plus any accrued interest. As of June 30, 2007 all loans were open, i.e. they mature each day. FRS did not have any credit risk at year-end because the collateral held reflected the fair value of the securities on loan. There were no violations of legal or contractual provisions, nor borrower or lending agent default losses during the year. FRS has an indemnification agreement with their lending agent in case of borrower default. At year end, broker-dealers held securities on loan contracts as follows:

	Fair Value of Securities Held	Fair Value of Collateral Held
Security Type	06/30/2007	06/30/2007
U.S. Government obligations	\$ 1,783,413	\$ 1,809,994
Domestic bonds	2,888,995	2,922,623
Common stock	<u>51,579,121</u>	53,330,844
	<u>\$56,251,529</u>	<u>\$ 58,063,461</u>

The underlying securities representing collateral on the securities lending transactions are not available for the System or its agent to pledge or sell except in the case of a borrower default. Accordingly, neither the collateral nor the related liability involved in the lending transaction is reported in the Statement of Plan Net Assets, in accordance with GASB 28, paragraph 7.

# 7. NOTES RECEIVABLE FROM MERGED SYSTEMS

7% notes receivables from merged systems at June 30, 2007 consisted of the following: Annual Payments

System	(Including Interest)	Payment Due	Balance
Bastrop	\$ 69,910	December 7, 2010	\$ 253,376
Bogalusa	127,069	January 1, 2010	333,417
Bogalusa Retirees	91,526	January 15, 2010	240,192
Kenner	87,088	April 1, 2029	1,059,807
Kenner Retirees	142,697	April 1, 2029	1,578,410
New Iberia	166,288	November 4, 2010	563,253
New Iberia Retirees	110,352	January 1, 2013	525,999
West Monroe	171,340	January 1, 2015	<u>1,035,933</u>
	<u>\$ 966,270</u>		<u>\$_5,590,387</u>

During the year ended June 30, 2007, members transferred into FRS who had previously been members of other state or statewide retirement systems due to transfers (R.S.11:143), purchased military service credit (R.S.11:153) or repaid refunds (R.S.11:2254). As a result of these transfers, FRS received net cash of \$287,848.

# 8. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The following is a summary of changes in the property and equipment during the fiscal year.

	Balance July 1, <u>2006</u>	Additions	<u>Retirements</u>	Balance June 30, <u>2007</u>
Equipment	\$40,957	\$	- \$	\$40,956
Furniture	59,346	-	-	59,346
Computer software	113,716		-	113,716
Land	1,066,778	-	806,671	260,107
Building	734,720	-	-	734,720
Construction in progress	109,741			109,741
	<u>2,125,258</u>		806,671	<u>1,318,586</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u> </u>	<u>32,732</u>	<b>_</b>	387,265
Net property and equipment	\$ <u>1,770,724</u>			\$ <u>931,321</u>

Depreciation expenses for the year ended June 30, 2007 was \$32,732. In addition during the year, FRS sold the parcels of land located adjacent to the FRS office building.

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# 9. CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISKS

FRS has notes receivable from municipalities within the state. The collectibility of the receivables described in Note 7 above is dependent on the continued existence and solvency of those entities.

Also, as noted in Note 6, FRS has concentrations of investments in U.S. government and agency securities as well as bonds and stocks of U.S. corporations. The value and collectibility of these investments is dependent on the normal market conditions that impact these types of investments as well as the continued existence and solvency of those entities.

# 10. RISK MANAGEMENT

FRS is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the System carries insurance through the State of Louisiana, Office of Risk Management at levels which management believes are adequate to protect the System. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

FRS is operating as a tax qualified plan and is currently seeking a formal determination of this status from the Internal Revenue Service.

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuations at the dates indicated. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation follows.

Valuation date Actuarial cost method Amortization method Remaining amortization period

Actuarial assumptions: Investment rate of return\* Projected salary increase Cost of living adjustments Investment smoothing June 30, 2007 Entry Age Level dollar – closed 18 years

7.5% 5.3% - 14.7% Only those previously granted 5 year

\*Includes inflation at 3.25%

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

# SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Actuarial	Actuarial Value of	June 30, Actuarial	Unfunded	Funded	Covered	UAAL as a
Valuation Date	Assets (a)	Accrued Liability (AAL) (b-a)	AAL (UAAL) (b-a)	Ratio (a/b)	Payroll	Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b-a)/c)
06/30/07	1,025,656,019	1,192,323,327	166,667,308	86.02%	155,944,919	106.88%
06/30/06	911,329,622	1,089,280,137	177,950,515	83.66%	147,631,087	120.54%
06/30/05	819,240,156	1,012,901,863	193,661,707	80. <b>88</b> %	141,292,965	137.06%
06/30/04	725,615,787	1,010,016,865	284,401,078	71.84%	133,667,782	212.77%
06/30/03	658,376,086	944,688,340	286,312,344	69.69%	121,012,780	236.60%
06/30/02	642,947,201	888,963,640	246,016,439	72.33%	114,422,827	<b>215.</b> 01%
06/30/01	663,377,250	834,986,462	171,609,212	79.45%	107,667,223	159.39%
06/30/00	646,606,069	779,541,318	132,935,249	82.95%	100,504,497	132.27%
06/30/99	610,870,354	686,029,152	75,158,798	89.04%	92,758,784	81.03%
06/30/98	519,924,527	574,884,182	54,959,655	90.44%	79,171,364	69.42%

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# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

# SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTING ENTITIES June 30, 2007

	Employer Contributions		State of Lo	ouisiana
Year Ended June 30	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage Contribution	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage Contribution
2007	\$20,681,735	100.00%	\$18,946,928	100.00%
2006	22,132,922	100.00%	18,119,048	100.00%
2005	31,065,230	100.00%	16,537,682	100.00%
2004	29,847,861	100.00%	16,114,672	100.00%
2003	25,046,668	52.70%	14,668,649	100.00%
2002	10,206,462	100.00%	24,667,309	72.10%
2001	9,526,940	100.00%	19,726,553	100.00%
2000	8,802,352	100.00%	11,597,251	100.00%
1999	7,545,028	100.00%	9,020,724	100.00%
1998	6,784,748	100.00%	9,648,122	100.00%
1997	6,381,641	100.00%	8,960,220	100.00%

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# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM TRUSTEES PER DIEM

Year Ended June 30, 2007

_	Number of Meetings	Per Diem	
Charlie Fredieu	13	\$	975
Paul Smith	13		-
Stacy Birdwell	13		975
Treasurer John Kennedy or designee	11		-
Commissioner Jerry Luke LeBlanc or designee	10		-
Senator Butch Gauthreaux or designee	4		-
Mayor Dudley Dixon	4		300
Mayor Clarence Hawkins	13		975
Mayor Jimmy Durbin	6		450
Sammy Halphen	11		825
Representative Pete Schneider	0		
Total		\$	4,500

There were a total of 13 board meeting days. The board members receive \$75 per diem for each meeting. Some members do not accept per diem or are paid by other entities.

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM administrative expense schedule

Human Reso	irce:		
	Staff Salaries	318,124	
	Payroll Taxes	4,350	
	Employee Retirement Expense	36,801	
	Insurance	37,979	
	Total Human Resource		397,254
Professional	Services:		
	Actuarial	47,740	
	IT Support	13,083	
	Accounting	24,450	
	Investigative Services	676	
	Medical Exams	48,204	
	Bank Service Charge	7,398	
	Total Professional Services		141,551
Communicat	ion:		
	Printing	5,555	
	Telephone	6,170	
	Postage	20,982	
	Supplies	13,389	
	Dues and Subscriptions	12,999	
	Advertising	2,692	
	Total Communication		61,787
Travel			
	Board Member Per Diem	4,200	
	Travel	37,862	
	Education Seminars	5,660	
	Total Travel		47,722
Building and	Equipment		-
	Utilities	12,980	
	Building Maintenance	36,095	
	Short-lived Equipment	1,304	
	Equipment Maintenance	8,454	
	Depreciation	32,732	
	Insurance - General	5,663	
	Total Building and Equipment		97,228
Miscellaneou			*
	Net, Interest Expense (Income)	(239,555)	
	Miscellaneous	892	
	Total Miscellaneous		(238,663)
Total Admir	histrative Expense		506,879



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#### Investment Overview

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, the market value of the investment portfolio was approximately \$1.1 billion representing an increase over the previous year-end of 18.7%. The investment return for the fiscal year was 17.1% using a time-weighted rate of return calculation in accordance with the guidelines established by the CFA Association. Investments in equity securities represented 55% of the assets with over 40% of these being in international securities. About 8.7% of portfolio was in U.S. equity holdings of U.S. companies having a market capitalization of less than \$10 Billion (usually referred to as Small to Mid-size companies) and the balance in large cap U.S. names sometimes referred to as "Blue Chip" stocks. Approximately 14% of the assets were held in U.S. fixed income securities with 3% in publicly traded REITs and 5.1% in Emerging Market Debt.

During the year, there were several minor shifts in the asset allocation strategy. First the allocation to equity securities was maintained near the maximum allowed of 65% for most of the year but was reduced to 55% late in the year to lower the portfolio's exposure to an economy that was viewed as slowing. The portfolio was able to capture the majority of the equity market's results earning 22.9% versus an S&P500 Index return of 20.6%. Also, during the year the allocation to small cap stocks was reduced from 17.7% of total equity to 15.7%. This decision was a positive contributor since the small cap market as represented by the Russell 2000 stock index was up only 16.4%. While the core fixed income market represented by the Lehman Aggregate Bond market actually had one of its better years in recent memory, it was still only up 6.1% so the minimal allocation 14% was a correct decision. The portfolio's fixed income return of 9.4% beat the market due to its REIT allocation (up 22.6%) and its emerging market debt (up over 15%). The allocation to international equities was a positive contributor as our international stocks portfolio was up over 30%.

One of the truest and time-tested methods of managing risk in an investment portfolio is through diversification. The Board of Trustees adheres to this belief and therefore follows a discipline of diversification in investing the assets in the portfolio. In addition to the diversification outlined above, the assets are spread among thirty-one different professional money managers and two index funds to avoid any undue risk to a single management organization. There were 4 new managers added this year and a new index fund. We reviewed the performance of each manager with the Board on a monthly basis and provided a more detailed market and peer group comparison on a quarterly basis. In addition, managers are asked to appear personally before the Board any time that their performance falters from expected norms or other issues of importance regarding their organizations that would require a review. Looking forward, the Board is aware of the importance of asset allocation in achieving a desired return within acceptable risk guidelines. To this end, the Board has been expanding its commitments to strategies and asset classes that are not as market sensitive as equity and fixed income. The goal is to provide an attractive result if the economy does slow in reaction to the higher interest rate environment. At year end, approximately 20% of the portfolio was invested in these types of strategies.

All in all, we believe that the portfolio provided an exceptional result this past fiscal year (+17.1%) versus its market benchmark (+14.7%) of 60% equities and 40% core fixed income. In our expert opinion, the portfolio is well positioned under current legislative restraints to produce the best results possible for the coming fiscal year. Respectfully submitted:

Consulting Services Group, LLC Investment Consultant to the Board

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Investment Policy

### **BASIC INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS**

The basic investment philosophy of the board is to invest and reinvest FRS assets to achieve the actuarially determined rate of return on investment assets to ensure the availability of funds needed to provide the mandated benefits to FRS participants, while exposing the system's assets to the least amount of risk possible consistent with the required return objective. A second and subordinate objective of the board is the preservation of the system's principal. In pursuit of this policy the board and its investment professionals shall:

- (1) Act with the same care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent institutional investor acting in a similar capacity and familiar with those matters would use in the conduct of a similar enterprise with similar aims;
- (2) Act with due regard for the management, reputation, and stability of the issuer and the character of the particular investments being considered; and
- (3) Fully conform to the provisions of the statues of the state of Louisiana, including all amendments thereto.
- (4) The investment portfolio will consist of fixed income securities and equities, including convertible securities.

It is the aim of the board that, each year, the overall investment portfolio will gain on a consistent basis a return equal to or greater than the annual actuarially assumed interest rate which is to be attained from interest, dividends, and net realized and unrealized capital gains.

Consistency is of supreme importance and it is to be achieved by an insistence upon high standards of quality and by a weighting of the portfolio among asset classes that reflects a judicious evaluation of the current and prospective rates of market return.

Consistency is of such importance, that the board may under prudent circumstances be willing to accept an investment performance ranking below the median of comparable retirement funds during rising securities markets in exchange for decidedly superior performance during falling or declining securities markets.

The board and its investment managers recognize that the goal of achieving or exceeding the actuarially assumed interest earnings rate may not be attained every year due to the dynamics of the securities markets. However, that goal should be attained over a full economic cycle (normally 3-5 years).

<u>Total Fund Return</u>. Over this cycle it is expected that the investment return realized on the total portfolio will exceed the return achieved by a composite average of 110% of the Standard and Poor's 500 Stock Index and 105% of the Lehman Aggregate Bond Index weighted in proportion to the system's target mix of equity and fixed income holdings. Additionally, it is expected that the total fund rate of return will exceed the median return for a comparable universe of retirement systems.

<u>Individual Manager Return.</u> Over the same cycle it is also expected that the performance rank of each manager will range between the first and forty-ninth percentile and will exceed the return (net of fees) of a comparable market index.

In furtherance thereof, the investment consultant shall provide monthly, quarterly, and end of fiscal-year reports summarizing the fund's performance as compared to these stated goals. Due to the limited availability of universe data, peer group performance comparisons are not required to be provided on a monthly basis.

A letter placing a manager on "watch" status shall automatically be issued to any manager whose performance is below his assigned index as measured in all periods up to three years, as shown in the monthly flash report published by the investment consultant and based on asset valuations furnished by the custodial bank. In addition thereto, any manager shall automatically be placed on "watch" status and a letter issued to that effect if either of the following conditions exists: (1) His performance is in the bottom quartile of his peer group for the prior three year period, or (2) His performance is below median compared to his peer group as measured for the prior five year period.

It is the policy of the board, provided all investment factors are equal and within the limits of prudence, that investments in Louisiana securities are encouraged as well as the use of Louisiana based investment managers.

# PARAMETERS OF PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

The FRS asset custodian shall agree to handle the short-term investments of the fund. Such investments must be permitted by the statues of the state of Louisiana as applicable to public retirement funds and may include but are not necessarily limited to obligations of the U.S. Treasury, certificates of deposit, and commercial paper. Funds available for short-term investments may include proceeds from the sale of bonds or equities, interest and dividend income and new contributions to the fund. The FRS asset custodian shall agree to invest such funds within one business day of their availability.

It is the board's policy to allow managers to hold cash balances as a defensive posture against market declines, but managers will be evaluated on the performance of their total allocation, including cash. Each manager shall provide the board with a monthly report summarizing its cash holdings, including but not limited to the duration of such holdings.

The investment managers have discretion to buy and sell securities within these parameters.

# FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT POLICY

Notes and bonds will be utilized in this portfolio for income, price appreciation, and for their defensive characteristics.

It is imperative that the bond portfolio be of investment quality. The investment managers are therefore to purchase only bonds issued by the Federal Government and its agencies, mortgage-backed securities and corporate bonds rated "Investment Grade" (BAA or better) by a nationally recognized credit rating agency, unless the board of trustees approves an exception to that requirement and lists the exception in the appendix of this policy. The average quality of the portfolio must be at least "A". The purchase of high yield bonds is permitted if so stated in the investment guidelines for that manager. The purchase of preferred stocks is permitted provided the underlying equity is of adequate quality. Marketability is extremely important; thus, all bonds purchased must be issued with an outstanding amount of at least \$50 million par value.

The investment managers are to only purchase securities that are denominated in United States dollars, unless the board of trustees approves an exception to that requirement and lists the exception in the appendix of this policy.

No single holding other than a U.S. Government or a U.S. Government agency bond or note is to account for more than 5% of the market value of the system's total portfolio. Nor shall the bonds of any one issuer, other than the U.S. Government or its agencies, account for more than 10% of the market value of the system's total portfolio.

It is also expected that the bond portfolio will be subject to active management in the interest of achieving maximum total return within appropriate quality constraints. Specific guidelines will be established for each manager and shall be attached to this policy under Appendix A.

#### EQUITY INVESTMENT POLICY

The equity portfolio is to be managed on a total return basis; that is, equities will be selected on the basis of their anticipated return from the combination of dividends and market appreciation within a three to five year horizon.

The equity portfolio is to be constructed on four fundamental building blocks: (1) diversification, (2) market capitalization, (3) growth, and (4) value. The equity portfolio may be concentrated in securities that appear to represent particularly attractive value but the portfolio must be adequately diversified. No single equity holding is to account for more than 8% of the market value of any manager's total portfolio.

All domestic equities purchased by the fund shall be registered on a national securities exchange regulated under Title I of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System. All international equities purchased by the managers for the system shall be common stock of publicly traded companies on recognized trading exchanges and be readily marketable securities offering potential for above-average growth.

Specific guidelines will be established for each manager and shall be attached to this policy under Appendix A.

The allocation objective of the FRS portfolio is to participate in all capitalization sectors of the equity market. To the extent practical, FRS shall:

- (1) Maintain equity holdings in large, middle, and small capitalization securities.
- (2) The core equity managers shall be selected in such a manner that the equity portfolio has reasonable exposure to the "growth" and "value" styles.

Investment managers shall vote all proxies on behalf of and in the best interest of FRS. Each investment manager shall promptly advise the FRS board regarding any issue that requires special consideration.

#### **RESTRICTED TRANSACTIONS**

Any security may be purchased by a manager, provided that the purchase is consistent with the underlying principles of the "prudent institutional investor" rule and, further provided, that the purchase is not prohibited by any provision of law or this policy. No derivative securities may be used which would have the effect of leveraging the portfolio or exposing it to risks inconsistent with the spirit of the guidelines and the conservative investment philosophy of this fund. As such, any use of derivatives must be explained in the manager's investment guidelines under Appendix A hereof and must be limited to hedging strategies or to remain invested during periods of transition.

Short selling and the purchase of securities on margin are prohibited, unless expressly approved in the manager guidelines and attached in an Appendix to this policy.

#### COMMUNICATION

The board and its retained professionals recognize that frequent communication between the parties is a keystone to appropriate management of the fund.

Recognizing the dynamic nature of the capital markets, it is the obligation of the retained professionals to promptly report to the board any suggestions or alterations in their guidelines considered desirable for the achievement of satisfactory investment results. Revisions will be considered from time to time.

The FRS board requires the following reports to be provided by the indicated professionals that are retained to assist the board in its investment process:

A. Investment Managers-

- (1) A timely notification/confirmation of all transactions shall be provided to the FRS custodial bank.
- (2) A monthly statement of asset values at cost and market.
- (3) A quarterly summary of performance with comparison to appropriate market performance indices.
- (4) A quarterly summary of performance with comparison to the objectives and goals outlined in their policy statements.
- (5) A quarterly summary of brokerage commissions paid on transactions made.
- (6) A quarterly summary of proxy votes made on the fund's behalf.
- (7) In addition to providing these written reports, the investment managers are obligated to make periodic personal appearances before the board.
- (8) Each manager is responsible for notifying the FRS board of any material change in personnel, investment strategy, or other pertinent information that effects or has the potential to effect the manager's performance.
- (9) Each investment manager shall agree, as a condition of being retained by FRS, to provide notice to the system whenever the manager is in violation of any provision of this policy. Notice shall be provided within forty-eight hours of any such violation or by the date of the next board meeting, whichever comes first. The manager shall also provide information concerning the manager's planned course of action to return to compliance with this policy and the timing of any such action.
- B. Investment Consultant-
- (1) A quarterly summary of manager performance with comparison to the appropriate market and peer performance indices.
- (2) A quarterly summary of performance with comparison to the objectives and goals outlined in this policy statement.
- (3) A monthly executive summary of total fund and individual manager performance relative to the pertinent market indices and goals stated in this policy statement.
- (4) A report regarding portfolio diversification.

(5) A report regarding the outlook for expected returns by asset class and any recommendations regarding asset allocation decisions.

C. Custodian-

- (1) A monthly statement reporting the value of all assets at cost and market.
- (2) A monthly summary of all portfolio transactions by manager.
- (3) A quarterly summary of brokerage commissions paid on transactions by manager.

## TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITY

Participation in the affairs of any public body demands a high level of personal integrity and conduct. This is especially true when wise utilization of the funds of others is involved. Members of the board must discharge their responsibilities without prejudice or favor, avoiding at all time any conduct which would create a conflict of interest.

Staff members shall carry out the duties and responsibilities delegated by the board in the best interest of members of FRS. No staff member shall engage in any activity in his official position or in a personal investment program which will in any way create a conflict of interest.

Trustees must possess the knowledge and skill necessary to discharge their responsibilities to the system and thus shall adhere to all continuing education requirements prescribed by law or this policy.

#### CONTROL PROCEDURES

All major liability assumptions regarding the number of plan participants, payroll, benefit levels, and actuarial assumptions will be subject to an annual review. This review will focus on an analysis of the major differences between the system's assumptions and actual experience.

The achievement of investment objectives will be reviewed on an annual basis. This review will focus on the continued feasibility of achieving the investment objectives and the appropriateness of the investment policy for achieving these objectives. It is not expected that the investment policy will change frequently. In particular, short-term changes in the financial markets should not require an adjustment to the investment policy.

The board will require each manager to report monthly in a manner agreed upon by the board, staff, consultant, and manager.

The board will meet at least annually, and preferably more frequently, with its investment managers and investment consultant. Additionally, with or without the investment managers, the board will review the investment results at least quarterly.

These reviews will focus on:

- (1) Manager adherence to the policy guidelines.
- (2) A comparison of manager results versus appropriate indices.
- (3) Manager results compared to a universe of peer managers.
- (4) Material changes in the manager organizations, such as investment philosophy, personnel changes, acquisitions, or losses of major accounts, etc.

FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM ASSET ALLOCATION SUMMARY As of June 30, 2007



Large Cap Domestic Equity (19%)	Mid Cap Domestic Equity (11%)
□Small Cap Domestic Equity (2%)	Developed International Equity (20%)
Emerging Markets International Equity (3%)	Core Domestic Fixed Income (12%)
High Yield Domestic Fixed Income (5%)	REITS (3%)
Emerging Market International Fixed Income (5%)	Directional Hedge Funds (7%)
Non Directional Hedge Funds (7%)	Private Real Estate(4%)
Private Equity (1%)	Cash (1%)

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

As of June 30, 2007	One Year	Three Year	Five Year
FRS Large Cap Equity	19.4%	13.1%	11.7%
S&P 500	20.6%	11.7%	10.7%
FRS Small/Mid Cap Equity	16.6%	15.4%	15.8%
Russell 2500	18.7%	15.0%	15.3%
FRS International Equity	30.7%	23.3%	16.9%
MSCI ACWxUS	30.2%	25.0%	19.9%
FRS Core Fixed Income	6.4%	4.3%	5.0%
Lehman Brothers Aggregate	6.1%	4.0%	4.5%
FRS High Yield Fixed Income	2.2%	8.2%	10.4%
Merrill Lynch High Yield Index	11.6%	8.9%	11.5%
FRS REIT's	22.6%		N/A
NAREIT Index	12.6%	21.1%	18.6%
FRS Alternatives	12.2%	N/A	N/A
FRS Private Equity	N/A	N/A	N/A

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIST OF LARGEST ASSETS HELD

Top Twenty Equity Holdings at June 30, 2007					
Asset Description	Shares	Cost Value	Market Value		
Exxon Mobil Corp.	96,305	5,412,221	8,859,097		
General Electric Co.	164,386	5,999,450	6,766,128		
Chevron Corp.	73,089	5,051,699	6,688,374		
Hewlett Packard Co.	116,349	2,807,573	6,012,916		
International Business	50,484	4,568,028	5,862,202		
Machines Corp.					
Humana	56,692	3,542,242	4,249,065		
Marathon Oil Corp.	71,414	2,241,238	4,222,710		
Microsoft Corp.	111,000	2,842,640	4,085,910		
Pfizer Inc.	157,826	4,489,058	3,884,098		
Altria Group Inc.	52,101	3,000,478	3,799,726		
Bank of America Corp.	77,932	3,384,205	3,762,557		
Cisco Systems Inc.	108,700	2,252,925	3,593,925		
Oracle Corp.	148,384	2,210,722	3,289,673		
Lockheed Martin Corp.	29,480	1,915,254	3,243,979		
Applied Materials Inc.	166,627	3,199,725	3,235,896		
Kroger Co.	107,088	2,903,252	3,147,316		
Big Lots Inc.	128,017	2,794,316	3,069,848		
Medco Health Solutions	28,800	2,070,634	2,718,144		
Xerox Corp.	153,756	2,376,567	2,681,505		
Express Scripts Inc.	39,100	1,915,456	2,467,210		

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIST OF LARGEST ASSETS HELD

Asset Description	Coupon	Maturity	Cost	<u>Fair Value</u>
	Rate	Date		
GATX FINL Corp.	5.125%	04/15/2010	1,501,485	1,513,860
Citi Group Inc	5.400%	01/30/2016	986,230	915,660
Valero Energy Corp.	4.750%	06/15/2013	707,980	673,568
FNMA Pool #891475A	6.500%	04/01/2036	624,334	639,106
FHLMC Pool #G02090F	6.500%	02/01/2036	609,264	612,979
FHLMC Pool #A41366F	6.500%	01/01/2036	606,212	603,570
GNMA Pool #454426X	6.000%	12/15/2033	613,822	599,302
FNMA Pool #908925A	6.000%	03/01/2037	579,487	578,998
Kellogs Co.	7.450%	04/01/2031	593,000	576,620
Conoco Inc.	6.950%	04/15/2029	586,535	569,355
FHLMC Pool #A48197F	6.500%	01/01/2036	558,621	559,756
FHLMC Pool #G08070F	6.500%	07/01/2035	551,261	548,194
Altria Group Inc.	7.000%	11/04/2013	542,330	547,170
Motorola, Inc.	7.625%	11/15/2010	562,520	533,710
FNMA Pool #893926A	6.000%	10/01/2036	531,944	532,548
Kerr McGee Corp	6.950%	07/01/2024	573,795	532,105
Smith Intl Inc.	6.750%	02/15/2011	533,345	524,220
Progressive Corp	6.375%	01/15/2012	528,980	523,400
GE Capital Corp MTN	6.000%	06/15/2012	504,715	518,670
Marathon Oil Corp.	6.125%	03/15/2012	534,395	517,605
Boeing Cap Corp	5.800%	01/15/2013	517,920	515,695

# Firefighters Retirement System



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# G. S. CURRAN & COMPANY, LTD.

Actuarial Services

10555 North Glenstone Place • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810 • (225)769-4825

Gary S. Curran, FCA, MAAA, ASA, EA Consulting Actuary

November 16, 2007

Board of Trustees Firefighters' Retirement System 3100 Brentwood Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are pleased to present our report on the actuarial valuation of the Firefighters' Retirement System for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007. Our report is based on the actuarial assumptions specified and relies on the data supplied by the system's administrator and accountants. This report was prepared at the request of the Board of Trustees of the Firefighters' Retirement System. The primary purposes of the report are to determine the actuarially required contribution for the retirement system for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, to recommend the net direct employer contribution rate for fiscal 2009, and to provide information required for the system's financial statements.

This report has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices, and to the best of our knowledge and belief fairly reflects the actuarial present values and costs stated herein.

Sincerely,

G. S. CURRAN & COMPANY, LTD.

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Gary Curran, F.C.A., A.S.A

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Summary of Assumptions

In determining actuarial costs, certain assumptions must be made regarding future experience under the plan. These assumptions include the rate of investment return, mortality of plan members, rates of salary increase, rates of retirement, rates of termination, rates of disability, and various other factors that have an impact on the cost of the plan. To the extent the future experience varies from the assumptions selected for valuation, future costs will be either higher or lower than anticipated. The following chart illustrates the effect of emerging experience on the plan.

#### Factor

Increase in Factor Results In

Investment Earnings Rate Annual Rate of Salary Increase Rates of Retirement Rates of Termination Rates of Disability Rates of Mortality Decrease in Cost Increase in Cost Increase in Cost Decrease in Cost Increase in Cost Decrease in Cost

## ACTUARIAL COST METHOD:

Individual entry age normal with allocation of cost based on earnings. Entry and attained ages calculated on age near birthday basis.

VALUATION INTEREST RATE:

7.5%

# ACTUARIAL ASSET VALUES:

Invested assets are valued at market value adjusted to defer four-fifths of all earnings above or below the valuation interest rate in the valuation year, three-fifths of all earnings above or below the valuation interest rate in the prior year, two-fifths of all earnings above or below the valuation interest rate from two years prior, and one-fifth of all earnings above or below the valuation interest rate from three years prior. Under this methodology the value of the assets will not be less than 90% nor more than 110% of the actual market value.

# ANNUITANT MORTALITY:

1994 Uninsured pensioner mortality table utilized for pre-retirement and post-retirement table used for pre-retirement and post-retirement mortality.

# RETIREE COST OF LIVING INCREASES:

The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the system and includes previously granted COLAs. The present values do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the board of trustees.

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Summary of Assumptions (continued)

#### ANNUAL SALARY INCREASE RATE:

Salary increases include 3.25% inflation and merit increases. The gross rates including inflation and merit increases are as follows:

Years of Service	Salary Growth Rate
12	14.7%
314	6.3%
15 & Over	5.3%

#### **RETIREMENT RATES:**

The table of these rates is included in the actuarial valuation report. These rates apply only to those individuals eligible to retire.

#### DROP ENTRY RATES:

The table of these rates is included in the actuarial valuation report. These rates apply only to those individuals eligible to participate.

#### DROP PARTICIPATION PERIOD:

All DROP participants are assumed to participate for 3 years and retire at the end of this participation period.

RETIREMENT RATES FOR ACTIVE FORMER DROP PARTICIPANTS:

Retirement rates for active former DROP participants are as follows:

Ages	<b>Retirement Rates</b>
74 & Under	0.25
75 & Over	1.00

#### DISABILITY RATES:

70% of the disability rates used for the 21<sup>st</sup> valuation of the Railroad Retirement System for individuals with 10-19 years of service. The table of these rates is included in the actuarial valuation report. 20% of total disabilities are assumed to be in the line of duty.

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Summary of Assumptions (continued)

#### WITHDRAWAL RATES:

The rates of withdrawal are applied based upon completed years of service according to the following table:

Service	Factor	Service	Factor
<1	0.100	7	0.020
1	0.060	8	0.020
2	0.060	9	0.020
3	0.060	10	0.020
4	0.035	11	0.020
5	0.035	>11	0.010
6	0.035		

Note: The withdrawal rate for individuals eligible to retire is assumed to be zero.

#### MARRIAGE STATISTICS:

80% of the members are assumed to be married; husbands are assumed to be three years older than wives.

## SERVICE RELATED DEATHS:

20% of Total Deaths

#### FAMILITY STATISTICS:

Assumptions utilized in determining the costs of various survivor benefits as listed below, are derived from information provided in the 2000 U.S. Census:

Age	% with Children	Number of Children	Average Age
25	62%	1.7	6
35	82%	2.1	10
45	66%	1.8	13
55	19%	1.4	15
65	2%	1.4	15

#### DISABLED LIVES MORTALITY:

RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Tables for Males and Females

# VESTING ELECTING PERCENTAGE:

80% of those vested elect deferred benefits in lieu of contribution refunds.

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Membership Data

Fiscal Year	Number	Annual Payroll	Annual Ave Pay	% Increase in Average Pay
2007	3,632	\$150,960,665	\$41,564	4.8%
2006	3,534	140,175,740	39,665	4.3%
2005	3,532	134,313,739	38,028	1.8%
2004	3,431	128,144,746	37,349	3.7%
2003	3,360	121,012,780	36,016	4.6%
2002	3,322	114,422,827	34,444	4.2%

# Retiree and Beneficiary Data At June 30, 2007

Fiscal Year	# of Annuitants	Additions	Deletions	% Change In Membership	Annual Annuities	% Change in Annuities
2007	1,555	95	17	5.3%	\$43,972,738	10.9%
2006	1,477	71	28	3.0%	39,649,619	8.6%
2005	1,434	79	24	4.0%	36,510,489	7.1%
2004	1,379	86	22	4.9%	34,076,169	8.0%
2003	1,315	70	33	2.9%	31,542,638	6.5%
2002	1,278	70	22	3.9%	29,610,698	6.0%

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM ASSET EXPERIENCE

The actuarial and market rates of return for the past ten years are given below. These rates of return on assets were arrived at by assuming a uniform distribution of income and expense throughout the fiscal year.

	<u>Actuarial Value</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
1998	11.8%	11.5%
1999	8.4%	6.9%
2000	5.5%	3.5%
2001	0.7%	-2.9%
2002	-3.0%	-3.7%
2003	0.9%	5.4%
2004	8.0%	11.0%
2005	10.4%	10.4%
2006	9.9% *	12.3%
2007	11.6%	17.1%

\* Based on the actuarial value of assets and income and expense including the effect of a change in the method for calculating the actuarial value of assets under a 5-year smoothing of investment earnings above or below the assumed 7.5% rate of return. Returns for years 1998 through 2005 were based on a 2-year smoothing of recognized realized and unrealized capital gains (losses) on all securities.

# Reconciliation of Unfunded Accrued Liability As of June 30, 2007

Prior Year Unfunded Accrued Liability	\$	177,950,515
Interest on Unfunded Accrued Liability Normal Cost for Prior Year Interest on the Normal Cost Normal Cost for Merged Systems with Accrued Interest Administrative Expenses Interest on Expenses TOTAL Increases to Unfunded Accrued Liability	\$ \$	13,346,289 33,933,985 2,545,049 138,444 746,434 27,485 50,737,686
Required Contributions for Prior Year with interest Contribution Excess (Shortfall) with accrued interest Cost of Living Adjustment Gains (Losses) Merger Gains (Losses) Investment Gains (Losses) Liability Experience Gains (Losses) TOTAL Decreases to Unfunded Accrued Liability	\$ \$	53,475,038 3,684,696 (13,421,495) (1,065,812) 37,184,765 (17,836,299) 62,020,893
CURRENT YEAR UNFUNDED ACCRUED LIABILITY	\$	166,667,308

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Changes in Plan Provisions

**Act 143** provides for the removal of a former spouse as beneficiary of any benefits paid or payable, provided the former spouse consents to this removal. Proof of this consent by the former spouse is to be in the form of a certified court order issued in connection with a divorce proceeding. Once the former spouse is removed as beneficiary, the benefit is to be restored to the maximum amount payable, less any reduction required to account for the time that the former spouse was a beneficiary.

Act 51 authorizes the board of trustees to conduct an audit of any participating employer. The objectives of the audit will be as follows:

1) verify the eligibility of a member or members to participate in the system

2) verify compensation being earned by a member or members as compared to the amount being reported to the retirement system

3) verify the years of covered employment and service credit accrued by a member or members

4) determine the accuracy of benefits scheduled to be paid or already being paid to any member or members

The participating employer will provide to the auditor complete access to any books, records, documents, and accounts needed to complete the audit, including but not limited to copies of any member's birth certificate, death certificate, driver's license, marriage license, time sheets, leave forms, payroll records, and contribution records. The retirement system may request the legislative auditor to conduct the full audit or any portion of the audit. Failure to comply with the requirements of this act may subject the governing authority of the employer and the custodian of records of the employer to the enforcement provisions of the public record laws found in R.S. 44:35(D) and (E).

Act 352 states that notwithstanding the prudent-man rule, the system may but is not required to divest itself of any holding in a company having facilities or employees located in a prohibited nation as that term is defined in R.S. 11:312(B)(2). The provisions of this act will apply to both direct ownership of securities and securities held in a collective fund. The system will be required to adopt and implement a corporate governance strategy of constructive engagement with each company. The corporate governance strategy of constructive engagement will contain a plan of system action to cause the company to remove its facilities and/or employees from the prohibited nation. As part of the plan of system action, the system will make its best efforts to identify all such companies. The plan of system action will be implemented not later than one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this act.

# Firefighters Retirement System



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# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Schedules of Revenue & Expense by Source and Type

Revenue by Source							
Fiscal Year	<u>Member</u> Contributions	Employer Contributions	IPTF Allocation	<u>Net</u> <u>Investment</u> <u>Earnings</u>	<u>Other</u> Operating <u>Revenues</u>	<u>Total</u>	
2007	\$12,343,832	\$23,989,079	\$18,796,831	\$161,858,490	\$5,845,683	\$222,833,915	
2006	11,100,322	25,287,368	18,197,358	104,278,816	491,126	\$159,354,990	
2005	10,750,246	32,898,204	17,096,085	78,546,820	493,191	139,784,546	
2004	9,940,375	27,650,433	16,537,682	73,194,397	739,028	128,061,915	
2003	9,980,305	13,200,282	23,704,649	32,785,925	1,172,708	80,843,869	
2002	8,933,430	10,044,357	15,115,035	(22,824,379)	2,693,948	13,962,391	

Expenses by Type						
<u>Annuity</u> Benefits	<u>Disability</u> <u>Benefits</u>	<u>Refunds &amp;</u> Transfers	Administrative Expenses	<u>Total</u>		
\$43,955,093	\$3,321,152	\$628,932	\$506,879	\$48,412,056		
39,509,957	2,982,855	889,230	667,651	44,049,693		
39,371,442	2,694,199	907,771	585,997	43,559,409		
36,281,148	2,259,873	1,067,755	749,148	40,357,924		
33,849,503	1,871,210	797,766	615,165	37,133,644		
32,159,698	1,535,340	813,332	523,256	35,031,626		
	Benefits           \$43,955,093           39,509,957           39,371,442           36,281,148           33,849,503	Annuity Benefits         Disability Benefits           \$43,955,093         \$3,321,152           39,509,957         2,982,855           39,371,442         2,694,199           36,281,148         2,259,873           33,849,503         1,871,210	Annuity BenefitsDisability BenefitsRefunds & Transfers\$43,955,093\$3,321,152\$628,932\$9,509,9572,982,855889,23039,371,4422,694,199907,77136,281,1482,259,8731,067,75533,849,5031,871,210797,766	Annuity BenefitsDisability BenefitsRefunds & TransfersAdministrative Expenses\$43,955,093\$3,321,152\$628,932\$506,87939,509,9572,982,855889,230667,65139,371,4422,694,199907,771585,99736,281,1482,259,8731,067,755749,14833,849,5031,871,210797,766615,165		

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Membership Census							
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Actives</u>	<u>Retirees &amp;</u> Survivors	DROP Participants	<u>Terminated</u> Due a Benefit	<u>Terminated</u> Due a Refund		
2007	3,632	1,655	134	54	298		
2006	3,534	1,477	111	52	249		
2005	3,532	1,434	103	45	189		
2004	3,431	1,379	114	42	181		
2003	3,360	1,315	120	36	143		
2002	3,322	1,278	145	30	133		

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Schedule of Participating Employers

City of Abbeville Ascension Parish Fire District #3 City of Alexandria City of Baldwin City of Baker City of Bastrop City of Bayou Cane Beauregard Parish Fire Protection District #1 Benton Fire Protection District #4 Town of Berwick City of Bogalusa City of Bossier City Town of Brusly Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #1 Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #2 Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #3 Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #4 Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #5 Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #6 Caddo Parish Fire Protection District #8 Calcasieu Parish Consolidated Government Central Fire Protection District #4 City of Covington City of Crowley City of Denham Springs City of Deridder **Desoto Fire Protection District #8** Fire Protection District #6 City of Donaldsonville East Central Bossier Fire Protection District #1 City of Eunice Town of Farmerville City of Franklin City of Franklinton Grant Parish Fire Protection District #5 City of Gonzales Town of Gueydan City of Hammond

City of Harahan City of Haughton Iberia Parish Fire Protection District #1 Jefferson Parish Fire Protection District Jefferson Davis Parish Fire Protection District #2 City of Jennings City of Jonesboro City of Kaplan City of Kenner Town of Kentwood City of Lafayette City of Lake Charles City of Leesville Lincoln Fire Protection District #1 City of Marksville City of Minden City of Monroe Montegut Fire Protection District #6 City of Morgan City City of Natchitoches Natchitoches Fire Protection District #6 City of New Iberia North Bienville Parish Fire Protection District City of Opelousas **Ouachita** Parish City of Pineville City of Plaquemine City of Ponchatoula City of Port Allen **Rapides Parish Fire Protection District #2** City of Rayville City of Ruston City of Shreveport St Bernard Parish Fire Protection District City of St Gabriel St George Fire Protection District St John the Baptist Parish Fire Protection District St Landry Parish Fire Protection District #1

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM Schedule of Participating Employers (continued)

St Landry Parish Fire Protection District #2 St Landry Parish Fire Protection District #3 St Mary Parish Fire Protection District #3 St Tammany Fire Protection District #1 St Tammany Fire Protection District #2 St Tammany Fire Protection District #3 St Tammany Parish Fire Protection District #4 St Tammany Parish Fire Protection District #5 St Tammany Fire Protection District #8 St Tammany Parish Fire Protection District #12 City of Sulphur City of Tallulah Tangipahoa Parish Fire Protection District #2 Tensas Parish Fire Protection District #1 Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District #4A Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District #5 Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District #6 Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District #7 Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District #9 Terrebonne Parish Fire Protection District # 10 Vermillion Parish Fire Protection District #7 City of Vidalia **City of Ville Platte** Washington Parish Fire Protection District West Baton Rouge Parish Fire Protection District #6 West Feliciana Fire Protection District #1 City of Westlake City of West Monroe City of Winnfield City of Winnsboro City of Zachary

# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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# **REPORT TO MANAGEMENT**

JUNE 30, 2007



# FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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# **REPORT TO MANAGEMENT**

JUNE 30, 2007





A Professional Accounting Corporation Associated Offices in Principal Cities of the United States WWW.pncpa.com

December 10, 2007

Board of Trustees Firefighters' Retirement System Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the Firefighters Retirement System for the year ended June 30, 2007 and have issued our report thereon. As part of our examination, we made a study and evaluation of internal accounting control to the extent we considered necessary to evaluate the system as required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Under these standards, the purposes of such evaluation are to establish a basis for reliance on the system of internal accounting control in determining the nature, timing, and extent of other auditing procedures that are necessary for expressing an opinion on the financial statements and to assist the auditor in planning and performing his audit of the financial statements.

The objective of internal control is to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance as to the safeguarding of assets against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and the reliability of the financial records for preparing financial statements and maintaining accountability for assets. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that the cost of a system of internal accounting control should not exceed the benefits derived and also recognizes that the evaluation of these factors necessarily requires estimates and judgments by management.

No matter how good a system, there are inherent limitations that should be recognized in considering the potential effectiveness of internal accounting. In the performance of most control procedures, errors can result from misunderstanding of instructions, mistakes of judgment, carelessness, or other personal factors. Control procedures whose effectiveness depends upon segregation of duties can be circumvented by collusion. Similarly, control procedures can be circumvented intentionally by management either with respect to the execution and recording of transactions or with respect to the estimates and judgments required in the preparation of financial statements. Further, projection of any evaluation of internal accounting control to future periods is subject to the risk that the degree of compliance with the procedures may deteriorate. We say this simply to suggest that any system needs to be constantly reviewed and improved where necessary.

During the course of our audit, we made the following observation which we feel should be brought to your attention. Concerning this matter, we offer the following comments and recommendations:

# Valuation of Alternative Investments

<u>Condition</u>: During late fiscal, 2005, the System at the recommendation of the investment committee, began to diversify its portfolio by investing in alternative investments which are also referred to as hard to value assets. The market value of these assets are not based upon quoted market values but estimates provided by managers of the funds as well as annual audits conducted by external audit firms.

#### Condition (continued):

It is management's responsibility to obtain documentation supporting market values as reported by the custodian. Controls over financial reporting would require that management obtain these estimates as well as assess the reasonableness of the procedures performed.

<u>Recommendation:</u> To ensure that the accounting records and financial reports to the Board are accurate on an ongoing basis, management of the system should seek to obtain both annual audits performed by investment funds as well as internally prepared information prepared on an interim basis and should asses the reasonableness of that information. Management of the system should use this information provided to calculate unrealized gains and losses and perform reconciliations for all alternative investments. Management of the System should maintain documentation of this review.

#### Compliance With the Investment Policy

- <u>Condition</u>: The investment policy of the Firefighters Retirement System states that the amount of bonds should be between 25-75% of total assets. Due to continued diversification of the investment portfolio into alternative investments, which has been approved by the investment committee as well as the board, as of June 20, 2007, the percentage of the bond portfolio is 14% of total investments.
- Recommendation: Best practices would reflect a policy that is followed. The formal investment policy of the Firefighters Retirement system should be updated to reflect the current intent of the board with respect to allowed percentages per type of investment.

We believe that the implementation of these recommendations will provide the System with a stronger system of internal accounting control. We appreciate the cooperation received from your personnel during the audit process. This report is intended solely for the information and use of the board of directors, management and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Pastlethwaite ! Netterville





December 21, 2007

Postlethwaite & Netterville Attn: Candace Wright 8550 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 1001 Baton Rouge, LA 70809

# Re: Management Letter Response; Audit Year 2006-2007

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to your management letter dated December 10, 2007 we offer the following response. The recommendation to obtain both annual audits performed by our alternative investment funds as well as internally prepared interim information to perform reconciliations of these funds has been taken under consideration by the board of trustees. Beginning with the quarter ended September 30, 2007, the FRS accounting staff obtained investment statements prepared by our alternative managers and performed reconciliations of our alternative portfolio holdings using these reconciliations. In addition, the system director has sent letters to all alternative manages communicating the board's expectation to receive annual audited financial statements within six months of the funds fiscal year-end.

The recommendation to update our formal investment policy to reflect the current intent of the board with respect to allowed percentages per type of investment has been taken under advisement by the board. Although the board has implicitly updated the investment policy through their vote to reallocate funds within our portfolio, the system will update its formal investment policy at the next monthly board meeting. We appreciate you bringing these matters to our attention.

Very truly yours,

Števen Stockstill.

FRS Executive Director