For Immediate Release

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**Pension Association Recognizes El Paso Firemen and Policemen’s Pension Fund for 20-year Performance**

AUSTIN (September 8, 2023) – The statewide professional membership association for administrators and trustees of public employee pension systems recognized the El Paso Firemen and Policemen’s Pension Fund for its continuing excellence in the key 20-year time frame, according to a comparative study it performs each year.

“The El Paso Board’s and staff’s decisions facilitated returns that are clearly among the best-performing systems in Texas and indeed the country,” said Sherry Mose, the Board President of the [Texas Association of Public Employees Retirement Systems](http://www.texpers.org). “The El Paso fund’s 20-year returns consistently average more than 8%, which is especially remarkable after the horrific market of 2022. But the El Paso system maintains its returns year after year.”

Mose referenced the [TEXPERS Asset Allocation Study of 2023](https://texpers.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/2023_Asset_Allocation/2023%20Asset%20Allocation%20Study%20-%20TEXPERS%20-%20for%202022.pdf), an annual survey of Texas systems conducted by the Maples Group, which provides legal, fiduciary, fund, regulatory and compliance services. Twenty-six Texas pension funds representing approximately $13.41 billion in total assets responded to the survey for the period ending Sept. 30, 2022.

The study confirmed that the El Paso Firemen and Policemen’s Pension Fund’s 20-year average return of 8.12% outperformed the average of the responding systems by nearly 1.5%, with only slightly more risk, for the 20-year period. It also beat a stock and bond index used to benchmark pension performance by more than 2%.

“El Paso’s pension system for firefighters and police had a significantly higher return with only a slightly higher standard deviation than the benchmark,” said James Perry, the Maples Group analyst who administers the study. “Standard deviation measures the dispersion, or volatility, of quarterly returns around their average value. The benchmark had a lower standard deviation but also a much lower return than EPFPPF, so the El Paso system managed risk well for the strong returns it generated.”

Mose noted that the 20-year average coincides with the typical retirement requirement for public employees for 20 or more years of service. Public employees’ retirement security hinges on pension fund investing performance that meets or exceeds investment targets, mainly because the City of El Paso does not participate in Social Security for its police and firefighters.

TEXPERS released its yearly “[Report on the Asset Allocation and Investment Performance of Texas Public Employee Retirement Systems](http://www.texpers.org/)” at its Summer Conference for pension fund trustees and staff in The Woodlands, held Aug. 14-15. Approximately 350 people attended.

\*\*\*Ends\*\*\*

NOTE TO EDITORS: The global aggregate index referenced in the fourth paragraph is a combination of 60% of the MSCI ACWI equity index and 40% of the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate fixed income index.

[ABOUT TEXPERS](http://www.texpers.org)

The Texas Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems is a voluntary nonprofit association that provides education and legislative advisory services to the trustees, administrators, professional service providers, and employee groups that manage the retirement money of police officers, firefighters, and municipal and district employees in cities across Texas.