

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

In re:  
City of Detroit, Michigan,  
Debtor.

Bankruptcy Case No. 13-53846  
Judge Thomas J. Tucker  
Chapter 9

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

TO: **ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the attached Motion will be brought on for hearing on a date and at a time that the court shall schedule should the court determine that a hearing is necessary.

Dated: June 9, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Arlene F. Woods  
Law Office of Arlene F Woods, P.C.  
2000 Town Center, Ste. 1900  
Southfield, Michigan 48075  
(248) 328-4291; (313) 550-8939  
[arlenep40039@aol.com](mailto:arlenep40039@aol.com)



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**LORENZO RIPPY'S, MOTION FOR TO ALLOW HIS COUNSEL TO  
FILE A RESPONSE TO THE CITY OF DETROIT'S MOTION**

NOW COMES the Respondent, LORENZO RIPPY, by his attorney and moves this Honorable Court to allow him to file a response to the City of Detroit's Motion, notwithstanding the Court's ruling. In support of this request, the Respondent states as follows:

1. The City of Detroit filed a Motion for Entry of an Order Enforcing the Confirmation Order and the City's confirmed Plan Against Respondent on June 12, 2024.

2. Respondent's counsel lost her partner, significant other and companion of 40 years on May 29, 2025. His Memorial Service took place on June 7, 2025, followed by his military burial on June 11, 2025. **(See Exhibit A)**

3. Since that time, Respondent's counsel has been attempting to deal with his death, handle his Estate, which is fairly sizeable and consists of two viable businesses, with employees, etc., along with personal assets, in an attempt to inventory all of the assets so the Estate can be probated.

4. Respondent's counsel received the Motion and recorded the date by which she had to respond, she put the date in her I phone calendar, however counsel did not realize that she actually put it down for July 26, 2025, and not June 26, 2025. Of course, the calendar did not alert her of the upcoming filing for June 26, 2025.

5. Counsel for Respondent is not in the habit of making such mistakes, however the death has thrown her off balance and while counsel thought she was handling everything with the efficiency that she normally handles things, clearly, she has been overwhelmed.

6. While counsel for Respondent does not expect that the Court's Order will change in any material manner, counsel does not want the record to appear that she neglected her client's case by failing to file a response. Such failure is completely antithetical to counsel's practice.

7. Counsel for Respondent sought the concurrence in this motion by serving a copy of this Motion with opposing counsel on July 2, 2025 before filing same with this Court.<sup>1</sup>

8. Counsel attaches hereto a Proposed Order which she prays this Honorable Court will enter. **(See Exhibit B)**

**WHEREFORE**, counsel for Respondent moves that this Honorable Court will allow her to file a response to the City of Detroit's Motion as there were extremely mitigating circumstances which resulted in counsel missing the filing date for the response.

Counsel for Respondent prays for such further and additional relief as this Honorable Court deems just.

Dated: June 9, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Arlene F. Woods  
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[arlenep40039@aol.com](mailto:arlenep40039@aol.com)

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<sup>1</sup> Counsel initially agreed to a Stipulation, however upon further consideration and to avoid any confusion counsel agreed that Respondent should file the Motion

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EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
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Chapter 9

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

ARLENE F. WOODS, subject to penalty of perjury states that on the 9th day of July, 2025 she served a copy of (1) Notice of Hearing; (2) Respondent's Motion to Allow Counsel to File a Response; (3) Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion; (4) Exhibit; and (5) Certificate of Service on:

All attorneys of Record listed in the attached Roster of Attorneys  
By EMAIL

/s/ Arlene F. Woods

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

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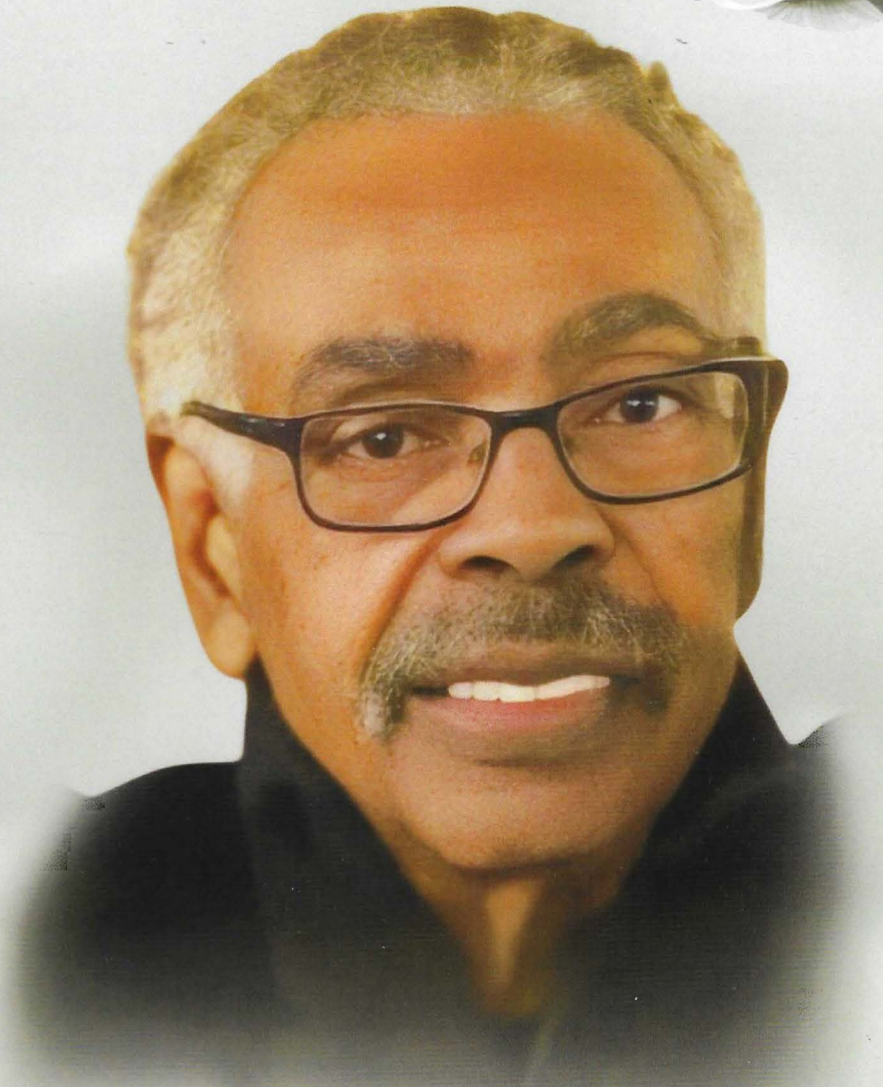


## **LIST OF EXHIBITS**

Exhibit A	Obituary
Exhibit B	Excerpt of Bankruptcy Plan for General Service Retirees
Exhibit C	Letter from Pension Board

# **EXHIBIT A**

*Celebrating The Life of*



*Carrel*  
**JAMES WILLIAMS**

*Sunrise* [REDACTED] *Sunset: May 29, 2025*

**Saturday, June 7, 2025**

12:00 PM Family Hour 12:30 PM Funeral Service

**Kemp Funeral Home and Cremation Services**

24585 Evergreen Rd.

Southfield, Michigan 48075

Minister Stewart, Officiating



## *Pallbearers*

Cyril Clarke III  
Patrick Williams  
Jonathan Taylor

Turune Williams  
Lee Williams  
Isaac Montgomery

## *Flower Bearers*

Family and Friends

## *Final Arrangements Entrusted To* **Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services**

24585 Evergreen Road  
Southfield, Michigan 48075  
(248) 702-5367

## *Interment*

### **Great Lakes National Cemetery**

4200 Belford Rd.  
Holly, Michigan 48442

## *Repast*

### **Quality Inn**

26111 Telegraph Rd.  
Southfield, Michigan 48034  
From 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

## *Acknowledgment of Appreciation*

The family of the late **Carrel James Williams** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and many other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced at this time in thought and deed. A more personal acknowledgment will be made at a later date.



**BELIEVED MEMORIES** 313.529.0203  
Home-Going and Memorial Programs

# **EXHIBIT B**

**EXHIBIT HAS BEEN EDITED TO INCLUDE ONLY THOSE RELEVANT PAGES AS THE TOTAL DOCUMENT IS 225 PAGES. FULL DOCUMENT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COURT UPON REQUEST TO PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY**

**COMBINED PLAN  
FOR THE  
GENERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OF THE  
CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

**Amendment and Restatement Effective July 1, 2014**

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## ARTICLE G. SPECIAL PLAN OF ADJUSTMENT PROVISIONS

### Sec. G-1. Benefit Changes Implemented Pursuant to the Terms of the Plan Of Adjustment

Notwithstanding anything in Articles A, C, D or E of Component II to the contrary, as of the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment and during the period that ends no earlier than June 30, 2023, the following provisions to comply with the terms of the Plan of Adjustment shall be implemented:

- (1) *Reduction in monthly pension payments.*
  - a. For a retiree or a surviving beneficiary who is receiving a monthly pension benefit as of the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment, as soon as practicable following such effective date such retiree's or surviving beneficiary's monthly pension benefit will be reduced to an amount that is equal to 95.5% of the monthly pension benefit being paid to such retiree or surviving beneficiary as of the date immediately preceding the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment ("Adjusted Accrued Benefit"); provided, however, that the Board and the Investment Committee shall determine on the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment and not less frequently than annually thereafter that the "Funding Conditions" as defined herein have been satisfied, and in the event that such Funding Conditions have not been satisfied then such retiree's or surviving beneficiary's Adjusted Accrued Benefit will be reduced in proportion to the funding which is not received by the Retirement System but not below an amount that is equal to 73% of the monthly pension benefit being paid to such retiree or surviving beneficiary as of the date immediately preceding the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment.
  - b. The Frozen Accrued Benefit that will be paid as a monthly Retirement Allowance upon the retirement or death of an active employee Member or a vested former employee Member on or after the Effective Date, will be reduced to an amount that is equal to 95.5% of the monthly pension benefit that would otherwise have been paid to the active employee or vested former employee under the terms of this Component II of the Combined Plan without taking into account this Section G-1 ("Adjusted Deferred Accrued Benefit"); provided, however, that the Board and the Investment Committee shall determine on an annual basis that the "Funding Conditions" as defined herein have been satisfied, and in the event such Funding Conditions have not been satisfied then such active employee Member's or vested former employee Member's Adjusted Accrued Benefit will be reduced in proportion to the funding which is not received by the Retirement System but not below an amount that is equal to 73% of the monthly pension benefit that would otherwise have been paid to the active employee or vested former employee under the terms of this Component II of the Combined Plan without taking into account this Section G-1.

- c. *Cap on Benefit Reductions for Certain Retirees.* With respect to any retiree or surviving beneficiary receiving monthly pension benefits from the Retirement System as of June 30, 2014, such retiree's or surviving beneficiary's Adjusted Accrued Benefit, as further reduced to take into account any ASF Recoupment under Section G-2, shall not be less than 80% of the monthly pension benefit being paid to such retiree or surviving beneficiary as of the date immediately preceding the Effective Date.

For purposes of this Sec. G-1, the term "Funding Conditions" shall mean that (i) Class 10 and Class 11 voted in favor of the Plan of Adjustment in accordance with the procedures for such vote under the Plan of Adjustment, (ii) the Plan of Adjustment is confirmed by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, and (iii) the funds that are pledged to be contributed to the Retirement System pursuant to the terms of the State Contribution Agreement and the DIA Settlement Documents have been received.

- (2) *Elimination of Pension Improvement Factor.* For all pension benefits payable after the Effective Date, the Pension Improvement Factor (Escalator) that will be applied to the monthly Adjusted Accrued Benefit or Adjusted Deferred Accrued Benefit of a Member, retiree, surviving beneficiary or vested former employee will be equal to 0%.
- (3) *Recoupment of Excess Returns on Annuity Savings Fund Account.* The terms of Section G-2 Annuity Savings Fund Recoupment shall apply to the Annuity Savings Fund account of Members, retirees and vested former employees as provided in Section G-2.
- (4) *Future Disability Pensions Eliminated.* The Duty Disability Retirement Allowance and Non-Duty Disability Retirement Allowance are eliminated with respect to Members who become disabled on or after July 1, 2014.
- (5) *Effect of Payment Default.* In the event that all or a portion of the funds pledged to be contributed to the Retirement System pursuant to the terms of the DIA Settlement Agreement are not received by the Retirement System, the Board shall automatically reduce the monthly pension benefits payable to Members, retirees, surviving beneficiaries, and former employees to the extent of such default.

## **Sec. G-2. Annuity Savings Fund Recoupment**

Notwithstanding anything in Articles A, B, C, D or E to the contrary, upon the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment, Members, retirees or vested former employees who were identified by the City as a Class 11 Holder under the Plan of Adjustment and who participated in the Annuity Savings Fund ("ASF") at any time during the period that began on July 1, 2003 and ended on June 30, 2013 ("ASF Recalculation Period") are subject to the following provisions:

- (1) *Recoupment from Members, retirees and vested former employees who maintain an Annuity Savings Fund account ("ASF account") as of the Effective Date.* For each Member, retiree or vested former employee who maintains an ASF account in

the Retirement System as of the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment, such individual's ASF account balance will be reduced by such individual's Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount, as determined by the City in accordance with this Section G-2 (1).

- a. For a Member, retiree or former vested employee who did not receive any distribution or loan from such individual's ASF account during the ASF Recalculation Period, the Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount means the difference between the value of such individual's ASF account as recalculated using the Actual Return (as defined in paragraph (3) below) and the actual value of such individual's ASF account as of June 30, 2013; provided, however, that an individual's Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount shall not exceed 20% of the highest value of such individual's ASF account balance (including any unpaid loan balance relating to the ASF account) during the ASF Recalculation Period.
- b. For a Member, retiree or vested former employee who during the ASF Recalculation Period has received a distribution (other than a total distribution) or loan from the ASF, the Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount means the difference between (i) the sum of (A) the value of such individual's ASF account as of June 30, 2013 and (B) all distributions (including any unpaid loans) received by such individual from his or her ASF account during the ASF Recalculation Period, and (ii) the value of such individual's ASF account as of June 30, 2013 as recalculated using the Actual Return; provided, however, that an individual's Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount shall not exceed 20% of the highest value of such individual's ASF account balance (including any unpaid loans made to the individual) during the ASF Recalculation Period.

- (2) *Recoupment from Members, retirees and former employees who previously took total Annuity Savings Fund account distributions.* Except as provided in paragraph (4) below, for each Member, retiree or vested former employee who has received a total distribution of the individual's ASF account during the ASF Recalculation Period, the individual's monthly pension benefit (and the survivor monthly pension benefit payable to the Member's survivor, if any) will be reduced by the individual's "Monthly Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount" as determined by the City in accordance with this Section G-2(2).

A Monthly Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount means the difference between (i) the value of the ASF account of a Member, retiree or vested former employee as of the date of distribution to such individual from the ASF, provided such date falls within the ASF Recalculation Period, and (ii) the value of the individual's ASF account as of such date, as recalculated using the Actual Return; provided, however, such difference shall not exceed 20% of the highest value of such individual's ASF account balance (including any unpaid loan balance) during the ASF Recalculation Period; provided, further, such amount will be converted into



a monthly annuity amount based on the individual's life expectancy, gender and, if the Member has not already retired, the expected date of retirement.

- (3) *Recoupment from Members, retirees and former employees who received partial Annuity Savings Fund account distributions.* A Member, retiree or vested former employee who previously received a distribution of a portion but not the entirety of the Member's Annuity Savings Account shall be subject to paragraph (1) to the extent of any funds then credited to the Member's Annuity Savings Fund account and shall be subject to paragraph (2) to the extent of any Excess Amount that cannot be recovered pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (4) *Cash repayment option.* Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3) above and subject to the Cash Option Cap described below, a Member, retiree, employee or former employee whose monthly pension benefit will be reduced pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) may elect to make a single lump sum cash payment to the Retirement System of the Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount by cashier's check or wire transfer ("Cash Repayment Option"). Each individual eligible for the Cash Repayment Option shall be provided by first-class U.S. mail an election notice and an election form no later than seven days following the Effective Date. The individual shall have thirty-five days from the date on which the election form is mailed to return the election form as directed on the form. An election of the Cash Repayment Option shall be effective only if it is received by the deadline set forth on the election form.

No later than fourteen days following the election deadline, the Board shall notify each individual who timely elects the Cash Repayment Option of the amount to be repaid to the Retirement System ("Final Payment Notice"). Such amount must be paid to the Retirement System on or before the later of (i) ninety days after the Effective Date, or (ii) fifty days following the date on which the Final Payment Notice is mailed to the individual.

If payment is not timely received, the monthly pension benefit of an individual who elects the Cash Repayment Option shall be reduced as provided in paragraph (2) or (3).

The Cash Repayment Option shall be limited to an aggregate amount of \$30 million (the "Cash Option Cap"). In the event the Retirement System receives timely and properly completed election forms representing an aggregate recovery amount in excess of the Cash Option Cap, then each individual who made a timely election of the Cash Repayment Option shall be permitted to repay an amount equal to his pro rata share of the Cash Option Cap. Any Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount that is not repaid under the Cash Repayment Option shall be repaid as provided in paragraph (2) or (3).

- (5) *Definition of Actual Return.* "Actual Return" means the actual net return percentage on the Retirement System's invested assets for each Fiscal Year during

the ASF Recalculation Period; provided, however, that for any such Fiscal Year the net return shall not be greater than 7.9% nor less than 0%.

- (6) *Limitation on recoupment.* Notwithstanding anything in this Section G-2 to the contrary:
- a. a Member's ASF account value after recoupment of the Member's Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount will never be less than the contributions made to the ASF by such Member and will reflect all interest credited by the Board to the Member's ASF account for the Fiscal Years ending prior to July 1, 2002; and
  - b. in no event shall the amount recovered from a Member described in Section G-2(2) (or G-2(3), with respect to amounts that may not be recovered pursuant to Section G-2(1)) exceed the Member's Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amount plus interest on such amount at a rate of 6.75%. Upon the Member's repayment of such amount in full, the Member's monthly pension benefit in effect immediately prior to adjustment as provided in Section G-2(2) (adjustment as provided in Section G-1), increased as provided in Section G-4, if applicable, shall be fully restored.
- (7) *Cap on benefit reductions for certain retirees.* With respect to any retiree or surviving beneficiary receiving monthly pension benefits from the Retirement System as of June 30, 2014, the Adjusted Accrued Benefit of such retiree or surviving beneficiary, as further reduced to take into account any ASF Recoupment under Section G-2, shall not be less than 80% of the monthly pension benefit being paid to such retiree or surviving beneficiary as of the date immediately preceding the Effective Date.

Annuity Savings Fund Excess Amounts of Members described in paragraphs (1) and (3) shall be transferred from the Annuity Savings Fund to the Pension Accumulation Fund and shall be used to pay pensions and other benefits to Members as provided in Component II of the Combined Plan.

### **Sec. G-3. Income Stabilization Benefits**

- (1) The provisions of this Section G-3 shall become effective only if each of the Conditions Precedent (as that term is defined in the State Contribution Agreement) have been met to the satisfaction of the Authority and the Treasurer, unless any one or more of such conditions are waived in a writing executed by the Authority and the Treasurer.
- (2) Beginning not later than 120 days after the Effective Date, Component II of the Combined Plan shall pay, in accordance with this Section G-3, an annual supplemental pension income stabilization benefit ("Income Stabilization Benefit") to each Eligible Pensioner (as defined in Section G-3(5)) equal to the lesser of either
  - (i) the amount needed to restore an Eligible Pensioner's reduced annual pension

benefit to 100% of the amount of the annual pension benefit that the Eligible Pensioner received from the Retirement System in 2013; or (ii) the amount needed to bring the total annual 2013 household income of the Eligible Pensioner up to 130% of the Federal Poverty Level for 2013. The Income Stabilization Benefit as determined under this Section G-3(2) will not increase after the date on which the Income Stabilization Benefit is determined. The Income Stabilization Benefit payable to an Eligible Pensioner will terminate immediately at such time as the Eligible Pensioner ceases to qualify as an Eligible Pensioner.

- (3) To the extent an Eligible Pensioner's Estimated Adjusted Annual Household Income (as defined in this Section G-3) in any calendar year after the first year that the Eligible Pensioner receives a benefit under this Section G-3 is less than 105% of the Federal Poverty Level in that year, the Eligible Pensioner will receive an additional "Income Stabilization Benefit Plus" benefit commencing as of the next following July 1.
  - a. The Income Stabilization Benefit Plus benefit for a calendar year will be equal to the lesser of either (i) the amount needed to restore 100% of the Eligible Pensioner's pension benefit, as increased by any Pension Improvement Factor (Escalator), under Component II of the Combined Plan; or (ii) the amount needed to bring the Eligible Pensioner's Estimated Adjusted Annual Household Income in that calendar year up to 105% of the Federal Poverty Level in that year.
  - b. An Eligible Pensioner's "Estimated Adjusted Annual Household Income" for any year will be the sum of (i) the Eligible Pensioner's 2013 total household income (per his or her (or in the case of a minor child, his or her legal guardian's) 2013 income tax return or equivalent documentation), less the pension benefit paid to the Eligible Pensioner from the Retirement System in 2013, as adjusted for inflation or Social Security COLA increases; (ii) the Adjusted Accrued Benefit that is payable to the Eligible Pensioner for that year as determined under Section G-1, (iii) any pension restoration payment to the Eligible Pensioner as determined under Section G-4; and (iv) the Eligible Pensioner's Income Stabilization Benefit.
- (4) A separate recordkeeping fund called the "Income Stabilization Fund" shall be established by the Board for the sole purpose of paying the Income Stabilization Benefits and Income Stabilization Benefits Plus to Eligible Pensioners. Any funds received by the Retirement System that is designated by the City as UTGO Bond Tax Proceeds or a contribution to the Income Stabilization Fund shall be credited by the Board to the Income Stabilization Fund. The assets credited to the Income Stabilization Fund will be invested on a commingled basis with assets of the Retirement System and will be credited with a pro-rata portion of the earnings and losses of the Retirement System. Amounts credited to the Income Stabilization Fund may not be used for any purpose other than the payment of Income

Stabilization Benefits and Income Stabilization Benefit Plus benefits to Eligible Pensioners, except as expressly provided in Section G-3 (7).

- (5) For purposes of this Section G-3, an “Eligible Pensioner” is a retiree or surviving spouse who is at least 60 years of age or a minor child receiving survivor benefits, each as of the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment, whose benefit will be reduced as provided in Section G-1, and who is eligible to receive Income Stabilization Benefits because (i) such individual is receiving monthly pension benefits from the Retirement System as of the effective date of the Plan of Adjustment, and (ii) such individual has a total annual household income equal to or less than 140% of the federal poverty level in 2013 (per his or her (or in the case of a minor child, his or her legal guardian’s) 2013 income tax return or equivalent documentation).
- a. An eligible individual must apply for an Income Stabilization Benefit in accordance with procedures established by the Authority and provide such substantiation of the individual’s aggregate annual household income as is required by the State in its sole discretion.
  - b. The initial determination of Eligible Pensioners, and amount of the Income Stabilization Benefit payable to each Eligible Pensioner shall be made by the State in its sole discretion. The State shall transmit the list of Eligible Pensioners to the Investment Committee and the Board. The Board, with the assistance of the Investment Committee, shall be responsible for administering the Income Stabilization Fund and annually certifying to the State Treasurer that it has administered the requirements for eligibility and payment of benefits with respect to Eligible Pensioners in accordance with the terms of the State Contribution Agreement.
  - c. After the initial determination of Eligible Pensioners is made, no new individuals will be eligible to receive an Income Stabilization Benefit or an Income Stabilization Benefits Plus benefit at any time in the future.
  - d. An Eligible Pensioner will cease to be an Eligible Pensioner as of the earlier of (i) the Eligible Pensioner’s death, or (ii) with respect to any minor child receiving survivor benefits, the date the minor child reaches the age of 18 years.
- (6) For purposes of this Section G-3, the “Federal Poverty Level” means the poverty guidelines published each year in the Federal Register by the United States Department of Health and Human Resources.
- (7) In the event that in 2022 (provided that the State has not issued a Certificate of Default (as defined in the State Contribution Agreement) with respect to the Retirement System at any time prior to 2022), it is the opinion of at least 75% of the independent members of the Investment Committee that the assets of the Income Stabilization Fund exceed the Income Stabilization Benefits and Income

Stabilization Benefits Plus benefits anticipated to be made to Eligible Pensioners by the Retirement System in the future (“Excess Assets”), the Investment Committee may, in its sole discretion, recommend to the Board that all or a portion of the Excess Assets, in an amount not to exceed \$35 million, be used to fund the Adjusted Accrued Benefits or Adjusted Deferred Accrued Benefits, as applicable, payable by the Retirement System. The Investment Committee shall have the right to engage professional advisers to assist in making this determination and such expenses shall be paid by the Retirement System.

- (8) In the event that any funds remain in the Income Stabilization Fund on the date upon which there are no Eligible Pensioners under the Retirement System, such funds shall be used to fund the Adjusted Accrued Benefits or Adjusted Deferred Accrued Benefits, as applicable, payable by the Retirement System.

#### **Sec. G-4. Restoration of Pension Benefits**

The following rules shall govern how accrued pensions, including Pension Improvement Factor (“COLA”) benefits, that are reduced as part of the Plan of Adjustment, shall be restored during the thirty year period following the confirmation order issued by the Bankruptcy court in *In Re. City of Detroit, Michigan*, Case No. 13-53846. The pension restoration process shall be supervised, and restoration decisions undertaken by the Investment Committee and in accordance with the pension governance provisions set forth in the State Contribution Agreement and exhibits thereto. The pension restoration program shall be deemed a part of this Component II, but in the event of any conflict between the language set forth herein and the pension restoration agreement attached to and made a part of the Plan of Adjustment (“Pension Restoration Agreement”), the terms of the Pension Restoration Agreement will govern.

- (1) *Waterfall Classes.*

There will be three Waterfall Classes:

- a. Waterfall Class 1 – Retirees, in retirement benefit pay status as of June 30, 2014, and their surviving spouses and beneficiaries.
- b. Waterfall Class 2 – Retirees, who entered into retirement benefit pay status after June 30, 2014, and their surviving spouses and beneficiaries, and who are in pay status as of the end of the Fiscal Year prior to the year in which the restoration decision is made.
- c. Waterfall Class 3 – All other Members who as of June 30, 2014 are not in retirement benefit pay status.

- (2) *Restoration of Benefits Through June 30, 2023.*

- a. Each year in conjunction with the annual actuarial valuation report, the Plan Actuary will project the funded ratio of the Retirement System as of 2023 based upon the market value of plan assets relative to the actuarial

accrued liabilities (the “Funded Level”). This projection will be further based upon a 6.75% assumed rate of investment return which is net of expenses (investment and administrative), future Employer contributions as set forth in the Plan of Adjustment (subject to the conditions in the Plan of Adjustment) and such other actuarial assumptions as utilized by the Plan Actuary. For purposes of restoration of benefits through June 30, 2023, the Funding Target will be a 70% funded ratio, the Restoration Target will be a 75% funded ratio, and the Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger will be a 71% funded ratio, all projected to June 30, 2023. For purposes of calculating the funded ratio, the assets in the Restoration Reserve Account will be excluded. Each year, if the Actuary projects that the projected Funded Level as of June 30, 2023 (excluding Restoration Reserve Account assets to avoid double counting) exceeds the Restoration Target (i.e., exceeds 75%), a credit of assets for bookkeeping purposes will be made into a new notional “Restoration Reserve Account”. The notional credit will be in an amount equal to the excess of assets above the amount projected to be needed to satisfy the Restoration Target. Once the Restoration Reserve Account is established, each year thereafter, Restoration Reserve Account assets will be credited with interest in an amount equal to the net return on Retirement System investments, but capped at the actuarially assumed rate of investment return (i.e., 6.75% for the period through June 30, 2023). In the event of net losses, the credited asset value of the Restoration Reserve Account will be diminished to reflect such losses and any required transfer to the Pension Reserve Fund.

- b. To the extent that the City’s (including DWSD or a successor authority) actual contributions in any of the Fiscal Years 2015 through 2023 are less than the contributions provided for in the Plan of Adjustment, such difference and any investment earnings thereon shall be notionally allocated to the Pension Reserve Fund.
- c. Actual restoration payments and credits will work as follows: each year in conjunction with preparation of the annual actuarial valuation report and following establishment of the Restoration Reserve Account, the Plan Actuary will determine whether there are sufficient funds in such account to restore a portion of the 4.5% across the board pension cuts in one or more minimum incremental amounts equal to ½% of the monthly benefit for each member of Waterfall Class 1 (i.e. reducing the initial across the board cut to 4.0%). This restoration only occurs if the funding level in the Restoration Reserve Account can fund 100% of each incremental increase over the remaining actuarially projected lives of the eligible recipients in Waterfall Class 1. If the Restoration Reserve Account satisfies the required funding level, then in the next Fiscal Year, actual restoration payments will be made to Waterfall Class 1 members in amounts equal to the benefit associated with each increment that have been fully funded in the Restoration Reserve Account. Once Waterfall Class 1 has sufficient

assets in the Restoration Reserve Account to fully fund and restore the 4.5% cut in their monthly benefits, and to the extent that additional assets in the Restoration Reserve Account remain and will fully fund at least ½% of the monthly benefit for each member of Waterfall Class 2 over their remaining actuarially projected lives, then Waterfall Class 2 members will receive pension restoration in minimum ½% benefit increments until an amount equal to the 4.5% cuts in their monthly benefits has been fully funded. At that juncture, and to the extent that additional assets in the Restoration Reserve Account remain and will fund at least a minimum ½% of the monthly benefit of each member in Waterfall Class 3 over their remaining actuarially projected lives, then each such member of Waterfall Class 3 shall receive a credit granting them a right upon retirement to receive pension restoration equal to the benefit increments that are fully funded. Restoration payments will be calculated and paid on a prospective basis only.

- d. After the full 4.5% across the board pension cuts are restored for all three Waterfall Classes, and to the extent there are additional assets in the Restoration Reserve Account to fully fund COLA benefits over the actuarially-projected lives of the eligible recipient Waterfall Class, such assets will be used to fully fund and restore a portion of the COLA values that were eliminated as part of the Plan of Adjustment. COLA will be restored in minimum 10% COLA value increments up to 50% of the future COLA values for each member of Waterfall Class 1 (i.e., a 50% future COLA value will constitute a 1.25% simple COLA), then up to 50% of the future COLA values for each member of Waterfall Class 2, and then up to 50% of the future COLA values for each member of Waterfall Class 3 until all members of the three Waterfall Classes have had 50% of the value of their COLAs fully funded and restored. After 50% of the future values of COLA have been fully funded and restored, and to the extent there are additional assets in the Restoration Reserve Account for each of the three Waterfall Classes, then a second 50% COLA restoration will be made, first to members of Waterfall Class 1, then Waterfall Class 2, and then Waterfall Class 3. Classes will be restored in minimum 10% COLA value increments. Restoration payments will be calculated and paid on a prospective basis only.
- e. If the amounts in the Restoration Reserve Account are sufficient to fully-fund the 4.5% across the board pension cuts for all three Waterfall Classes and 100% COLA restoration for all three Waterfall Classes, then any additional assets in the Restoration Reserve Account shall be used to increase the frozen accrued benefits of active and other Members whose Annuity Savings Fund accounts were diminished as part of the Annuity Savings Fund Recoupment (described in Section G-2), such that they receive treatment equal to the 20%/20% ceiling applied to retirees in pay status under the Plan of Adjustment. If after such pension restoration there are additional assets in the Restoration Reserve Account to fully

fund benefit increments over their remaining actuarially projected lives, Waterfall Class 1 members will receive pension restoration in ½% benefit increments of the reductions to their monthly pension due to Annuity Savings Fund Recoupment, and once such pension benefits are restored, Waterfall Class 2 members will receive pension restoration in ½% benefit increments in connection with the reductions to their monthly pensions due to Annuity Savings Fund Recoupment. Restoration payments will be calculated and paid on a prospective basis only

- f. Once restoration payments to applicable retirees and restoration credits to active employees begin, as long as the Restoration Reserve Account continues to have assets sufficient to fund 100% of an incremental pension restoration amount for such Waterfall Class members for their actuarially projected lives, such restoration payments and credits will continue; provided, however, that in the event the Restoration Reserve Account, after having sufficient assets to fund 100% of two or more increments (over their actuarially projected lives), falls below 100% for the second or greater increment, the annual amounts to pay such second or other additional increment can continue until the Restoration Reserve Account lacks any assets to fund it. For example, assume a ½% increment in Waterfall Class 1 requires \$10 million in assets to be fully funded for the Waterfall Class members' actuarially projected lives, and that based on Fiscal Year 2018 results the Restoration Reserve Account has assets of \$22 million so as to fund two increments of restoration in Fiscal Year 2019, (i.e., a 1% pension increase). Assume further that in the following Fiscal Year the Restoration Reserve Account drops in value to \$17 million; in such event two increments could still be paid, and the second increment of ½% would cease being paid only if the value of assets in the Restoration Reserve Account dropped to or below \$10 million (in the event they dropped below \$10 million, the first increment also would cease being paid). For purposes of restoration reduction, restoration increments will be taken away in reverse order in which they were granted (i.e. last in, first out).
- g. In the event the Funded Level (not including the assets in the Restoration Reserve Account) falls below 71% (hereinafter, "Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger"), then, until such time as the projected Funded Level in 2023 is 71% or above, further interest credits to the notional Restoration Reserve Account will cease notwithstanding the actual net investment returns for the Retirement System for the Fiscal Year in question. Furthermore, if the Funded Level projected to 2023 falls below the Funding Target (i.e., 70%) then restoration payments and credits in the following year will be modified in the following manner: (1) funds previously credited to the Restoration Reserve Account will be notionally transferred and credited to the Pension Reserve Account in sufficient amounts to restore the projected Funded Level in 2023 to 70%; (2) following such transfer, the remaining assets in the Restoration Reserve



Account shall be applied to make restoration payments in accordance with and pursuant to the same mechanism described in paragraph f.

- h. Following receipt of the actuarial reports for 2019, and in the event that the projected Funded Level as of 2023 is less than 71%, the Plan Actuary shall revisit the restoration calculations that it made during each of the prior four (4) years. It shall recalculate each such prior year's Funded Level projection, this time by assuming the lesser of (i) \$4.5 million in annual administrative expenses until 2023, or (ii) an amount of annual administrative expenses until 2023 equal to the average annual normal course administrative expenses in the prior four (4) years applicable to Component II, in addition to a net 6.75% annual investment return. If such retrospective recalculation indicates that fewer amounts would have transferred to the Restoration Reserve Account than actually were transferred during such look back period, then the Restoration Reserve Account shall be debited by the lesser of (i) this difference (plus interest at a rate equal to the rate that was credited to the Restoration Reserve Account during the look-back period) or (ii) the dollars that were actually paid out in restoration payments during such look-back period (plus interest at a rate equal to the rate that was credited to the Restoration Reserve Account during the look-back period); or (iii) the amount required to increase the projected 2023 Funded Level to 71%.

(3) *Restoration of Benefits from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2033.*

- a. During this period, the Funding Target, the Restoration Target, the Permanent Restoration Targets and the Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger shall be as set forth below:

<u>2023 Funded Level</u>	<u>2033 Funding Target/Restoration Target</u>
75%	75%/78%
74%	74%/77%
73%	73%/76%
72%	72%/75%
71%	71%/74%
70%	70%/73%
69% or lower	the % = to 2023 Funded Level %/73%
 <u>2033 Permanent Restoration Target</u>	
75%, or if greater, 1% more than 2033 Restoration Target	
 <u>2033 Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger</u>	
1% more than the projected Funding Target for all time periods	

The same rules for variable restoration payments and credits that applied during the period ending June 30, 2023 shall apply during the period ending June 30, 2033 (including ceasing interest credits in the event of a Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger, and making Restoration Reserve Account asset transfers to the Pension Reserve Fund in the event the 2033 Funded Level falls below the 2033 Funding Target), except as follows.

For purposes of determining whether the 2033 Restoration Target has been satisfied, the Plan Actuary shall project investment returns through June 30, 2033 at the then current investment return assumption which is assumed to be net of expenses (administrative and investment) and the applicable actuarial assumptions as utilized in the annual actuarial valuation. Further, the Plan Actuary shall assume, merely for purposes of determining whether the Restoration Target is satisfied, that the annual City contribution amount shall be the annual amount necessary to fund the Retirement System based upon an amortization of the actual 2023 UAAL at market value over 30 years (hereinafter, the “2023 UAAL Amortization”) and in such manner that the resulting annual contribution stream would achieve the Funding Target set forth above as of 2033. (Such projected, hypothetical contributions shall be for purposes only of making restoration determinations, and shall not necessarily be the actual contributions made or required to be made by the City or recommended during such period; all of which shall be determined independent of the restoration calculation process.). For purposes of calculating the funded ratio, the assets in the Restoration Reserve Account will be excluded.

- b. To the extent that the City’s actual contributions to the Retirement System in any of the Fiscal Years 2024 (the year ending June 30, 2024) through 2033 are greater than the projected annual contribution under the 2023 UAAL Amortization, such amounts, and any investment earnings thereon, shall be notionally credited to a new bookkeeping account in the Retirement System called the Extra Contribution Account. In determining pension restoration during the period from Fiscal Year 2024 through 2033, none of the amounts in the Extra Contribution Account shall be considered for purposes of determining the projected funded level for the Restoration Target or Permanent Restoration Targets. To the extent that the City’s (including for this purpose DWSD or a successor authority) actual contributions in any of the Fiscal Years 2024 through 2033 are less than the projected annual contribution under the 2023 UAAL Amortization, such difference and any investment earnings thereon shall be notionally allocated to the Pension Reserve Fund.
- c. Each year, in addition to the credit of assets that exceed the amount necessary to satisfy the Restoration Target, existing Restoration Account assets will be credited with interest equal to the net return on Retirement System investments, but capped at the then investment return assumption. In the event of net losses, the credited asset value of the Restoration Reserve Account will be diminished to reflect such losses.
- d. In connection with preparation of the actuarial report for Fiscal Year 2028, the Plan Actuary will determine whether the Retirement System has satisfied the applicable Permanent Restoration Target, which shall be 75%. Transfers from the Restoration Reserve Account for credit to the Pension Reserve Fund may be made in such amounts as are necessary to

satisfy the Permanent Restoration Target. If following such transfers the Funded Level as of June 30, 2028 has satisfied the Permanent Restoration Target (75%), then the amounts in the Restoration Reserve Account, if any (which will necessarily represent excess not necessary to satisfy the Permanent Restoration Target), and which fully fund one or more increments of restoration payments for one or more Waterfall Classes over such Waterfall Class members' actuarially projected lives, shall be transferred from the Restoration Reserve Account and credited to the Pension Reserve Account and the applicable incremental payments shall be permanently restored for the applicable Waterfall Class and shall no longer be variable from year to year. Variable restoration payments will continue to be paid or credited during the period from July 1, 2028 through June 30, 2033 based on the applicable Restoration Target set forth in paragraph a and otherwise in accordance with this Section G-4, notwithstanding whether the Restoration Target during this period is less than the Permanent Restoration Target as of June 30, 2028 of 75%.

- e. In connection with preparation of the annual actuarial valuation report for Fiscal Year 2033, the Plan Actuary will determine whether the Retirement System has satisfied the Permanent Restoration Target for 2033, as set forth in paragraph a. Transfers from the Restoration Reserve Account for credit to the Pension Reserve Account may be made in such amounts as are necessary to satisfy the Permanent Restoration Target. If following such transfers the Funded Level as of June 30, 2033 has satisfied the applicable Permanent Restoration Target, then the amounts in the Restoration Reserve Account if any (which will necessarily represent excess not necessary to satisfy the Permanent Restoration Target), and which fully fund one or more increments of restoration payments for one or more Waterfall Classes over such Waterfall Class members' actuarially projected lives, shall be transferred from the Restoration Reserve Account and credited to the Pension Reserve Account and the applicable incremental payments shall be permanently restored for the applicable Waterfall Class and shall no longer be variable from year to year.
- f. Following receipt of the actuarial reports for 2028, and in the event that the projected Funded Level of the Retirement System as of 2033 is less than 71%, the Plan Actuary shall revisit the restoration calculations that it made during each of the prior four (4) years. It shall recalculate each such prior year's Funded Level projection, this time by assuming the lesser of (i) \$4.5 million in annual administrative expenses until 2033, or (ii) an amount of annual normal course administrative expenses until 2033 equal to the average annual administrative expenses in the prior four (4) years applicable to Component II, in addition to a net 6.75% annual investment return. If such retrospective recalculation indicates that fewer amounts would have transferred to the Restoration Reserve Account than actually were transferred during such look back period, then the Restoration Reserve Account shall be debited by the lesser of (i) this difference (plus

interest at a rate equal to the rate that was credited to the Restoration Reserve Account during the look-back period) or (ii) the dollars that were actually paid out in restoration payments during such look-back period (plus interest at a rate equal to the rate that was credited to the Restoration Reserve Account during the look-back period); or (iii) the amount required to increase the projected 2033 Funded Level to 71%.

(4) *Restoration of Benefits from July 1, 2033 to June 30, 2043.*

- a. During this period, the Funding Target, the Restoration Target, the Permanent Restoration Target and the Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger shall be as set forth below:

<u>2023 Funded Level</u>	<u>2043 Funding Target/Restoration Target</u>
75%	75%/78%
74%	74%/77%
73%	73%/76%
72%	72%/75%
71%	71%/74%
70%	70%/73%
69% or lower	the % = to 2023 Funded Level %/73%

2043 Permanent Restoration Target

75% ,or if greater, 1% more than 2043 Restoration Target

2043 Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger

1% more than the projected Funding Target for all time periods

The same rules for restoration that applied during the period ending June 30, 2033 shall otherwise apply (including ceasing interest credits in the event of a Restoration Reserve Suspension Trigger, and making Restoration Account asset transfers to the Pension Reserve Fund in the event the 2043 Funded Level falls below the 2043 Funding Target). For example, for purposes of determining whether the 2043 Restoration Target has been satisfied, the Plan Actuary shall project annual contributions using the same 2023 UAAL Amortization. For purposes of calculating the funded ratio, the assets in the Restoration Reserve Account will be excluded, and no Extra Contribution Account assets shall be included for purposes of determining whether the Funded Level meets the Restoration Target or Permanent Restoration Target, including any additions to such account after 2033.

- b. In connection with preparation of the annual actuarial valuation report for Fiscal Year 2043, the Plan Actuary will determine whether the Retirement System has satisfied the applicable Permanent Restoration Target, as set forth in paragraph a. Transfers from the Restoration Reserve Account for credit to the Pension Reserve Account may be made in such amounts as are necessary to satisfy the Permanent Restoration Target. If following such transfers the Funded Level as of June 30, 2043 is equal to or greater than the applicable Permanent Restoration Target, then the amounts in the

Restoration Reserve Account if any (which will necessarily represent excess not necessary to satisfy the Permanent Restoration Target), shall be transferred from the Restoration Reserve Account and credited to the Pension Reserve Account and the applicable payments for the applicable Waterfall Class shall be permanently restored and shall no longer be variable.

(5) *Modification of the Pension Restoration Program.*

If any time after July 1, 2026, the Investment Committee (by vote of 5 of its 7 members), or the Board of Trustees (by a greater than 66% vote) determines that a change in relevant circumstances has occurred, or there was a mutual mistake of fact in developing the Pension Restoration Agreement, such that the continued operation of the Pension Restoration Agreement without amendment will: (a) materially harm the long-term economic interests of the City, or Retirement System; (b) materially impair the City's ability to fully fund over a reasonable period the then existing frozen benefit liabilities; or (c) materially hinder the restoration program, if as of that juncture (and for purposes of applying this subsection 5) annual funding levels (excluding the Extra Contribution Account) had materially exceeded the applicable Restoration Targets for a substantial period yet without any material actual restoration of benefits as contemplated herein having been made, the Investment Committee or the Board, as the case may be, shall provide written notice to the other entity of such a determination and of the need to amend the Pension Restoration Agreement and this Section G-4 (it being understood that the post-Chapter 9, 40-year amortization period (to 2053) to fully fund the Retirement System's frozen liabilities is, unless the relevant facts demonstrate otherwise, presumptively reasonable). The Investment Committee and the Board shall then meet to negotiate amendments to the Pension Restoration Agreement that address the identified risk of harm or impairment, but which also considers the Pension Restoration Agreement's objective of providing pension restoration. Such negotiations shall take into account reasonable actions the City has pursued or could pursue to mitigate such harm or impairment. Any such amendments shall require the approval of a majority vote of the combined members of the Investment Committee and Board (persons who sit on both the Board and Investment Committee shall have one vote). Such parties shall consult with the Mayor, City Council and the Governor of the State of Michigan ("Governor") in connection with such negotiation.

If the Board, acting through a majority, and the Investment Committee, acting through a majority, cannot agree to such amendments with the 90-day period following the provision of such notice by the determining party, then the Board and Investment Committee shall proceed to mediation upon demand from either the Board or the Investment Committee. In this regard, within 30-days following expiration of the 90-day period the Board and the Investment Committee shall each select a mediator from the list of approved mediators for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. The two selected mediators shall appoint a third neutral mediator from the approved list. Each party shall furnish a

written statement to the mediators within 30 days of selection of the neutral mediator. Representatives of the Mayor and the Governor shall be consulted in connection with such mediations. If following a 90-day mediation period following submission of the written statements the matter is not settled, then either the Investment Committee or the Board can file an action in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan asking it to declare, inter alia, whether or in what manner to amend the Pension Restoration Agreement and this Section G-4.

## **ARTICLE H. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

### **Sec. H-1. Enforcement; Civil Action.**

A civil action for relief against any act or practice which violates the state law, the 1997 Detroit City Charter, 1984 Detroit City Code or the terms of this Plan, may be brought by:

- (1) A Plan participant who is or may become eligible to receive benefit;
- (2) A beneficiary who is or may become eligible to receive a benefit;
- (3) A Plan fiduciary, including a Trustee;
- (4) The Finance Director, on behalf of the City as Plan sponsor.

### **Sec. H-2. Limitation of Other Statutes.**

No other provision of law, charter, or ordinance, which provides pensions or retirement benefits wholly or partly at the City expense, exclusive of federal Social Security old-age and survivors' insurance benefits for City employees, their surviving spouses and other dependents, shall apply to Members, retirees or beneficiaries of the Retirement System, their surviving spouses or other dependents.

CLI-2249225v7  
Last Edited: 10/17/14

# **EXHIBIT C**

**PLAINTIFF'S COUNSEL IS TRYING TO GET A  
MORE READABLE COPY OF THE DOCUMENT**





RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
OF THE  
CITY OF DETROIT

500 WOODWARD AVE. STE. 3000  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226  
PHONE 313-224-3362  
TOLL FREE 800-339-8344  
FAX 313-224-3522

July 8, 2014

Lorenzo Rippx  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Re: Pension Overpayment*  
[REDACTED]

In accordance with the Eighth Amended Plan for the Adjustment of Debts of the City of Detroit (the "Plan of Adjustment") you are subject to Annuity Savings Fund ("ASF") Recoupment. The Plan of Adjustment and Combined Plan Document for the General Retirement System of the City of Detroit (the "Combined Plan Document") require the Board of Trustees of the Retirement System ("Board of Trustees") to recover interest in excess of 7.0% credited to your ASF account during the ASF Recoupment Period (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2013). It is noted that the ASF Recoupment requirements are mandated by the City's bankruptcy and were not determined by the Board of Trustees or its representatives. Accordingly, the Board of Trustees is legally required to implement the ASF Recoupment provisions of the Plan of Adjustment as reflected in the Combined Plan Document. The Board of Trustees does not have the discretion to waive the requirements of the Plan of Adjustment or otherwise alter the terms of your ASF Recoupment.

As part of the City's bankruptcy proceedings, active Retirement System members were originally sent correspondence explaining the ASF recoupment payment process, including a lump sum election ballot, on or around December 15, 2014. The ballot was to be returned to the Retirement System no later than January 21, 2015.

Retirement System members whose ASF account balance was insufficient to satisfy their individual ASF Recoupment obligation, and who did not elect the lump-sum cash repayment option offered by the City during the bankruptcy, remain subject to ASF Recoupment via actuarial reduction to their monthly pension upon retirement. Under the Plan of Adjustment, your ASF Recoupment balance as of March 1, 2015 was subject to interest at the rate of 6.75% until the date of your retirement.

At the time of your retirement in 2020, your ASF Recoupment balance, with interest, was \$47,740.02. The actuarial reduction calculation of this amount results in a monthly recoupment in the amount of \$277.97 for a maximum of 495 months.

The Retirement System acknowledges its delay in implementing the monthly ASF Recoupment at the time of your retirement, however, the Board is legally required to seek to recover the full ASF Recoupment balance. You are not being charged any interest for the Retirement System's delay in implementation of the ASF Recoupment from your date of retirement. Accordingly, commencing August 1, 2024, your current monthly retirement benefit in the amount of \$1,107.68 will be reduced by the amount of \$277.97 for a maximum of 495 months. Your new monthly benefit commencing August 1, 2024 will be \$829.71.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, you may contact the General Retirement system by phone at 313-224-3362 ext. 225 or email to [ymoores@rsed.org](mailto:ymoores@rsed.org). - Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

General Retirement System of the City of Detroit

Enclosures

cc: Board of Trustees