

SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

We hope you are finding our monthly newsletters helpful as we track the milestones the [Illinois Police Officers' Pension Investments Fund's](#) (IPOPIF) is achieving as well as providing updates on important areas of our legislative mandate. As always, we welcome any suggestions for topics our readers would like to see covered. If you have a suggestion or comment, please emails us at newsletter@ipopif.org.

Transfer of Assets from Local Article 3 Funds

We are delighted to report that more and more Local Article 3 Funds are choosing to transfer their assets to IPOPIF as mandated by Public Act 101-0610. As of August 1, 155 Article 3 pension funds have transferred their assets to the IPOPIF consolidated fund. Based on current documentation status, we expect to transfer approximately 64 more funds in September with nearly 115 more scheduled to transfer in October and November.

For those funds that have yet to make the transfer, the IPOPIF requires that Authorized Agent appointments and investment data feeds be established at least one month prior to the transfer date. Numerous previous communications detailed the transfer process and requirements. A summary "Road Map" of the process may be found [here](#). The IPOPIF [website](#) also has detailed information about the IPOPIF as well as a [communications page](#) where Article 3 fund officials can access helpful documents, such as [Frequently Asked Questions – Transfer of Assets](#), [Exhibit A](#) and [Exhibit B](#) (for download), the required exhibits for the transfer of assets, and a memorandum on [cash management procedures](#).

October 3, 2022 Tranche Information

In accordance with the Transfer of Assets Rule, IPOPIF sent letters to all Article 3 pension funds on December 20, 2021, providing the original Notice of Transfer Date. Subsequent communications have resulted in assigning a revised transfer date of **October 3, 2022**. Key actions requested in those letters included passing Board resolutions appointing [Authorized Agents](#) and directing investment fiduciaries to work with IPOPIF's custodian, State Street Bank and Trust (State Street), to share investment information and plan the transfer of assets. Copies of this letter and related communications, including the Transfer of Assets Rule, are available at <https://www.ipopif.org/resources/communication/>.

The 75 funds assigned to this tranche, our eighth of the year, received notice of the Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) that have been assigned to each fund. The notice details the next steps in the preparation of the transition of assets process, including the preparation of the Certified Investment Asset Lists (CIAL).

November 1, 2022 Tranche Information

Adhering to the Transfer of Assets Rule, IPOPIF sent letters to all Article 3 pension funds on December 20, 2021, providing the original Notice of Transfer Date. Subsequent communications have resulted in assigning a revised transfer date of **November 1, 2022** for 36 funds. Key actions requested in those letters included passing Board resolutions appointing [Authorized Agents](#) and directing investment fiduciaries to work with IPOPIF's custodian, State Street Bank and Trust (State Street), to share investment information and plan the transfer of assets. As noted above, copies of this letter and related communications, including the Transfer of Assets Rule, are available at <https://www.ipopif.org/resources/communication/>.

The funds assigned to this ninth tranche also recently received notice of the Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) that have been assigned to them that details the next steps in the preparation of the transition of assets process. This includes the preparation of the Certified Investment Asset Lists (CIAL).

IPOPIF Board of Trustee Notes

The August meeting of the IPOPIF Board of Trustees was canceled. The next scheduled meeting of the board is Friday, September 9, 2022. The meeting will be an in-person meeting and also conducted remotely via the Zoom platform. For information about the remote meeting and the agenda, please refer to the [meetings page on our website](#).

The next meeting of the IPOPIF Board of Trustees will be on Friday, October 14, 2022.

Investment Performance Update

March and April "[monthly flash](#)" reports have been posted on the IPOPIF website. Additional reports will follow shortly and ultimately should be available with a few weeks of month-end. Detailed quarterly reporting is scheduled to begin in September for the period ending June 30, 2022.

Investment markets have been challenging so far in 2022 with concerns about inflation, rising rates, and slowing economic activity negatively impacting most investments. The table below shows periodic, since-inception performance through June 30 for the IPOPIF Fund relative to comparative passive benchmarks. Additional, plan-specific reporting is available through the State Street portal.

Board Election Update

The upcoming 2022 election for trustee seats was initiated by the Board of Trustees, in accordance with the pension code and Fund policy at the July 8, 2022, meeting. The first step in the trustee election process is the nomination of candidates which opened on July 8, 2022 and closed on August 12, 2022. To qualify as a candidate, the nominee had to submit the required number of signatures – which varies according to the seat – on designated petition forms that, in addition to the required number of signatures, must include the petition circulator's name, original signature and notary public stamp and seal. The Executive Director was responsible to review the petitions and to qualify the candidates. All nominations submitted to the IPOPIF qualified for the trustee election. The qualified candidates are:

Municipal Member Trustee (1 seat)

- Philip J. Suess

Beneficiary Member Trustee (1 seat)

- Daniel Hopkins

Active Member Trustee (2 seats)

- Lee Catavu
- Paul Swanlund

Subsequent to the qualification of candidates, the Election Policy provides for a period where the candidate petitions are available for review and a period where the nomination(s) can be challenged. There were no requests to review the candidate petitions. The nomination of candidate process effectively closed on August 24, 2022, with the candidates listed above qualified for the election.

The next step in the election process will occur at the October 14, 2022, meeting of the Board of Trustees when the Board approves the candidates for the election and authorizes the election process for the Board of Trustees. Based on the fact that the nomination process qualified the minimum number of candidates for each trustee seat, an election does not need to be held and the Board of Trustees will have the authority to declare the election of candidates completed and certify the election of these trustees. The seating of the trustees to the Board will occur at the January 2023, meeting.

Spotlight on Staff

Steve Yoon

Steve serves as an investment officer for the Illinois Police Officers' Pension Investment Fund. He joined IPOPIF in August 2021, bringing more than 15 years of investment industry experience. As an investment officer, Steve provides critical support for the asset transition project and development of the new investment program moving forward.

Before joining IPOPIF, Steve was an investment officer for the \$4 billion Municipal Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago (MEABF). At MEABF, he managed all aspects of the Fund's investments, including investment selection and monitoring across all asset classes, investment operations, strategic implementation of investment policies, liquidity management, and worked closely with the Board of Trustees. Prior to joining MEABF, Steve spent 11 years with Northern Trust in various capacities, ultimately serving as an Associate Relationship Manager and Second Vice President, working with public pension plans across the country.

Steve received his Bachelor of Science in Finance and Information Technology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is also actively involved in The Investment Diversity Exchange (TIDE) as an Advisory Board Member.

"I am really excited to be part of this new organization under the leadership of IPOPIF Board Members, Rich White, Executive Director, and Kent Custer, Chief Investment Officer. I've seen my contributions impact the very foundation of our organization and the progress we've made to the consolidation project so far. I am excited to see how our investment portfolio/program will grow to best serve Illinois Police Officers."

When he's not working to ensure a dignified retirement for IPOPIF participants and their beneficiaries, Steve likes to stay active whether it is traveling, exercising, or chasing after his young son. He's an avid endurance runner who completed two Chicago Marathons and is currently helping a friend train for his first ever Chicago Marathon.

Barbara Meyer

Barbara Meyer joined IPOPIF in mid-July as an investment officer. Like her colleague Steve Yoon, she provides important support for the asset transition project underway. Following the completion of asset transition, she will manage and monitor key investments and processes.

Prior to IPOPIF, Barb was an investment portfolio manager at Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF), where she focused on investment selection and monitoring for the public markets equity portfolio. Previous experience with pension and retirement savings plans includes consulting and client relationship management roles with Mesirow Financial, Northern Trust, and Ibbotson Associates.

Barb received her BBA from Loyola University and an MA in Economics from University of Illinois at Chicago.

In discussing her move to IPOPIF, Meyer noted, "This is an extraordinary opportunity and I am committed to working with the team to achieve the best risk-adjusted returns possible."

When not checking on the performance of assets, Barb can be found biking or cooking with friends and family.

On the Road

IPOPIF Board of Trustees chairperson Shawn Curry and Richard White, executive director, traveled to O'Fallon in late July to address the Illinois State Fraternal Order of Police 30th Biennial State Conference. They provided an update on the transfer of funds, the Board of Trustee election and the continued development of the IPOPIF organization.

Looking Ahead

We are pleased with the traction we have seen in the last few months with the transfer of assets from local Article 3 pension plans. With every tranche transfer the process becomes more seamless. Everyone involved from the IPOPIF team appreciates the professionalism of the individuals with whom we have worked with at the local plans. This has been a year of change and we have worked diligently to make the process understandable and as easy to undertake and complete under the laws under which we all operate.

As we approach the last quarter of 2022, we hope that the IPOPIF team has proven to all those with whom we engage, that we are dedicated to our mission and that our commitment to investment excellence will not waver. Be assured that members of our team will remain in contact with the leadership of the local Article 3 funds via phone, email and in person answering their questions and providing them with information about our statutory mandate and the transfer of assets process.

If you have any questions and would like to speak with a member of the IPOPIF team, feel free to call us at 331-472-1080 or email our executive director, Richard White, at rwhite@ipopif.org.