

IPOPIF

BOARD MEMBERS**Vacant**

*Participant Representative
Peoria, IL*

Lee Catavu

*Participant Representative
Aurora, IL*

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*Participant Representative
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Lake Forest, IL*

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*Municipal Representative
Wheaton, IL*

Brad Cole

*Illinois Municipal League
Representative
Carbondale, IL*

**ILLINOIS POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION INVESTMENT FUND
SPECIAL ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES****November 2, 2023****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

SCOTT W. BOWERS ELECTED TO COMPLETE THE ACTIVE MEMBER TRUSTEE TERM OF OFFICE ON THE IPOPIF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The Police Officers' Pension Investment Fund (hereafter "IPOPIF") was created by the Illinois Legislature and signed into law by Illinois Governor JB Pritzker on December 18, 2019.

The law, Public Act 101-0610, provided for the mandatory consolidation of the investment assets of the state's public safety pension funds into two investment funds one for police officers (Article 3) and one for firefighters (Article 4).

The investment fund is governed by a nine member, independently elected and autonomous board of trustees.

Pursuant to the Pension Code, the Board of Trustees approved on June 9, 2023, a special election take place to fill the active member trustee seat which became vacant by the resignation of the elected trustee holding this seat.

The active member trustee will fill the remainder of the four-year term of office that began in January 2021, and continues through December 2024.

The nomination period for candidates opened on June 26, 2023, and closed on August 4, 2023. Two candidates filed nomination papers which qualified them for the special election:

- **Scott W. Bowers**, Peoria Police Department. “23 years as a Police Officer. Trustee with Peoria Police Pension Fund since 2012”.
- **Steve Witnik**, Franklin Park Police Department. “Sergeant & Pension Board President”.

The IPOPIF Board of Trustees appreciated the interest, commitment and participation by Sergeant Witnik and Officer Bowers in the special election process.

Election ballots were mailed to 9,333 active members of the Article 3 police pension funds on October 3, 2023. The election date was October 31, 2023. A total of 2,021 ballots were returned for tabulation, which represented a 21.65% return rate.

The election results were that 2,019 valid ballots were counted, and 2 ballots were unexercised. There were zero invalid ballots. The election internal controls used by the election vendor were audited by Ryan, Hodgins & Associates, CPAs and no issues were discovered. The results of the election are:

- **Scott W. Bowers** **1,488 ballots cast** **73.7%**
- **Steve Witnik** **531 ballots cast** **26.3%**

The election results will be certified by Board of Trustees at their December 15, 2023, meeting and newly elected Trustee Bowers will be seated at the same meeting. Trustee Bowers will serve the remainder of this term of office which runs through December 2024.

Contact: Richard White, IPOPIF Executive Director at (309) 280-6464 or rwhite@ipopif.org