



INFORMATION SHEET FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES / DOMESTIC PARTNERS

This information is provided to answer some of the most frequently asked questions by new surviving spouses or domestic partners. Please contact the Retirement Services Section of Los Angeles Fire and Police Pensions (LAFPP) at (213) 279-3125 or toll free (844) 88-LAFPP (52377) if you have additional questions or concerns.

1. WHAT DO I DO?

After you have reported the death to Retirement Services Section, you may:

- a) Wait for a survivor benefit packet to be mailed to you, or
- b) Download and complete the Application for Survivor Pension Benefits Form and Affidavit or Declaration Pursuant to Section 13601 of the California Probate Code. Take both forms to a notary before signing them. Once the forms have been notarized, you may mail them to LAFPP, Attn. Retirement Services, 701 E. 3rd Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013-1865.

Your completed application and Affidavit or Declaration will be processed by the Retirement Services Section. You will be notified if additional documents, such as marriage certificate, birth certificate or death certificate, are required. You will also be advised by letter whether or not you are eligible for survivor benefits.

2. WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY PENSION?

You may contact the Retirement Services Section at (213) 279-3125 or toll free (844) 88-LAFPP (52377) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

3. IS MY PENSION TAXABLE?

Yes. If your spouse or domestic partner retired on a Service Pension or a Non-Service Connected Disability Pension, taxes will be deducted unless you elect not to have taxes deducted. Although a member's *Service-Connected Disability Pension is not subject to Federal income tax, the survivor's benefit may be partially taxable.*

4. HOW IS TAX WITHHELD FROM MY PENSION PAYMENT?

If you wish to indicate how federal and/or California State (for California resident) taxes are to be withheld from your pension payment, complete the appropriate tax withholding form(s) and return to the Retirement Services Section. If the appropriate forms are not received, federal taxes will be deducted at the default rate of Single with no adjustments, and California State taxes (for California residents) will be deducted at the default rate of Married with three (3) withholding allowances.

5. WILL MY SPOUSE'S OR DOMESTIC PARTNER'S DIRECT DEPOSIT CONTINUE?

No. If the death occurred after the 15th of the month or is not reported until after the 15th of the month, a deposit will be made into the existing account for the month that the death occurred. HOWEVER, LAFPP will process a reversal of the deposit. After the death certificate has been submitted, LAFPP will process a payment for the number of days the member lived.

6. IS DIRECT DEPOSIT AVAILABLE?

Yes, however, a new Direct Deposit Form must be submitted even if the account information is the same as the deceased member's. The completed Direct Deposit Form may be returned to the Retirement Services Section.

7. HOW DO I REPORT AN ADDRESS CHANGE?

Departmental policy requires a written notification of all address changes which must be signed by you, the surviving spouse or domestic partner. You may also choose to complete the Change of Address Form. Any change may be submitted by mail, email or fax to:

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND POLICE PENSIONS

Attention: Retirement Services Section
701 East 3rd Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013-1865

Email: rs@lafpp.com

Fax: (213) 628-7716

8. DO I QUALIFY FOR A HEALTH SUBSIDY?

You may contact the Medical and Dental Benefits Section at (213) 279-3115 or toll free (844) 885-2377.

9. WILL I BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MY PRESENT HEALTH INSURANCE?

Information regarding continuing your health benefits may be obtained from your current carrier:

L.A. FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION

7470 North Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, California 90041
(800) 244-3439
(323) 259-5224
www.lafra.org

L.A. POLICE RELIEF ASSOCIATION

600 North Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90012-2212
(888) 252-7721
(213) 674-3701
www.lapra.org

UNITED FIREFIGHTERS OF L.A. CITY

1571 Beverly Boulevard, Suite 101
Los Angeles, California 90026
(800) 252-8352
(213) 977-9014
www.uflac.org

L.A. POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

1308 West 8th Street, #400
Los Angeles, California 90017
(800) 535-2775
(213) 251-4554
www.lappl.org

10. OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Firefighters First Credit Union

815 Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, California 90041
(800) 231-1626
(323) 254-1700
www.lafirecu.org

L.A. Police Federal Credit Union

16150 Sherman Way
Van Nuys, California 91406
(877) 695-2732
(818) 787-6520
www.lapfcu.org

L.A. Retired Fire & Police Association

9521 Las Tunas Drive, #4
Temple City, CA 91780
(888) 288-5073
(626) 285-5138

Los Angeles Police Historical Society

(323) 344-9445

Los Angeles Police Memorial Fund

(213) 847-4239