

NEW YORK CITY RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

ACTUARIAL AUDIT AND RELATED REVIEW SERVICES INDEPENDENT ACTUARY'S STATEMENT

Prepared by Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Co. October 28, 2014

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The Honorable Scott M. Stringer Comptroller of the City of New York One Centre Street New York, New York 10007

Re: Independent Actuary's Certification Regarding the Funding of the Five Actuarially-Funded New York City Retirement Systems ("NYCRS")

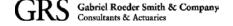
Dear Comptroller Stringer:

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) was retained to serve as Independent Actuary under Section 96 of the New York City Charter and provide other services related to the review of the funding of the following five actuarial pension funds (collectively NYCRS or the Systems):

- New York City Employees' Retirement System (NYCERS)
- Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York (TRS)
- Board of Education Retirement System of the City of New York (BERS)
- New York City Police Pension Fund (POLICE)
- New York Fire Department Pension Fund (FIRE)

GRS was required to conduct two consecutive biennial actuarial engagements, encompassing the following:

- Biennial Contribution Audits of the computed employer contributions for each System in NYCRS for fiscal years 2012 and 2014 (including an audit of actuarial accrued liabilities and actuarial valuation of assets);
- Biennial Experience Studies for the periods ending June 30, 2011 and June 30, 2013, for each System in NYCRS;
- Two Administrative Reviews of the data gathering and maintenance practices of the Office of the Actuary (OA) and each System in NYCRS (one review corresponding with each Contribution Audit); and
- Two Independent Actuarial Statements (one for each engagement); GRS, as the independent actuarial auditor, will submit a statement that will briefly describe the scope of the entire engagement, will review the entire engagement and comment on the financial condition and financing progress and policies of each System, and certify that the Systems are being funded on sound actuarial, financial, and legal bases.



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This report constitutes the deliverable with respect to the Independent Actuarial Statement for the first engagement. The purpose of this report is to:

- Summarize the findings from the Contribution Audit, the Experience Study and the Administrative Review from the first engagement; and
- Provide each System with a certification of the findings of the first engagement.

The Actuarial Contribution Audit provides an independent verification of the computation of employer pension contributions – including the methodologies used therein and their conformity to law, the assumptions adopted by the Systems, and generally accepted actuarial principles. The Experience Studies review and comment on the continued appropriateness of the actuarial assumptions used in the computations of employer contributions and identify areas where assumptions may be improved. The Administrative Review evaluates the actuarial data gathering process to ensure that the data collection methods produce sufficiently accurate data for valuation and Experience Study purposes. Thus the three components of the assignment provide assurance that:

- Assets and liabilities are calculated accurately, using appropriate actuarial assumptions and methods, and are based on sufficient and accurate census data; and
- Employer contribution amounts are computed in conformity with all applicable financial, actuarial and legal requirements.

GRS' Conclusions

Administrative Review:

GRS has concluded that the data used by the OA to determine employer pension contributions for FY 2012 and develop actuarial assumptions was sufficiently complete and accurate for those purposes.

Contribution Audit:

Through a valuation replication and review of individual test life cases, GRS has confirmed that the OA's calculations of the FY 2012 employer contribution for all Systems were reasonable and appropriate.

Experience Study:

Although actual experience did differ from assumptions in some instances, GRS has concluded that the assumptions used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuations were reasonable and has decided to defer making any recommendation to change assumptions until the completion of the second engagement. However, we have identified mortality, withdrawal and retirement assumptions as areas that we may recommend changes, if actual experience continues to differ significantly in the aggregate over time.

Accordingly, GRS is pleased to certify that the Systems are being funded in conformity with all applicable actuarial, financial and statutory requirements.



Organization of this Report

Section A	Independent Actuary's Statement for the New York City Employees'	
	Retirement System (NYCERS)	
Section B	Independent Actuary's Statement for the Teachers' Retirement	
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We would like to thank the Office of the Comptroller, the Office of the Actuary and the staff of each of the Systems for hosting our visits, supplying the information on which this study was based and reviewing initial drafts. This report could not have been completed without their assistance. They (all) were accommodating, informative and helpful.

Randall Dziubek, James Anderson, Joseph Newton and Danny White are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (M.A.A.A.) and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth G. Alberts

Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

Randall J/Dziubek, A.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Alternate Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

James D. Cinclerson
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Joseph P. Newton, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Alternate Project Manager and Experience Study Director

Daniel J. White, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Experience Study Director



SECTION A

INDEPENDENT ACTUARY'S STATEMENT FOR THE NEW YORK CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (NYCERS)

<u>Independent Actuary's Statement for the New York City Employee's Retirement System</u> (NYCERS)

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) was retained by the Comptroller to serve as Independent Actuary under Section 96 of the New York City Charter and provide other services related to the review of the funding of the NYCERS.

GRS has completed the following:

- A Contribution Audit of the computed employer contributions for NYCERS for fiscal year 2012 (including an audit of actuarial accrued liabilities and actuarial valuation of assets);
- Experience Studies for the Two-Year and Ten-Year periods ending June 30, 2011 for NYCERS; and
- An Administrative Review of the data gathering and maintenance practices of the Office of the Actuary (OA) and NYCERS.

Based on the Contribution Audit, the Experience Studies, and the Administrative Review for NYCERS, GRS certifies that NYCERS is being funded in accordance with Standards of Practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board and in conformity with the applicable New York State and New York City Statutes. Assuming continued funding of NYCERS by the City/Obligors on the basis used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation, we believe the City's funding objective (that these statutorily required contributions, together with member contributions and assumed investment income will be sufficient to pay benefits when due) will be achieved.

Employer Contribution Audit for Fiscal Year 2012

GRS has performed an actuarial audit of the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation which develops the employer contributions for Fiscal Year 2012. This actuarial audit included:

- A review of actuarial methods and assumptions;
- A replication of the valuation (using GRS software) to verify the computations of Actuarial Value of Assets, Actuarial Liabilities and Employer Contributions; and
- A review of several test life cases to validate the programming and software used by the OA to perform the valuation.

GRS has concluded the following:

- Actuarial methods and assumptions adopted by the Board and used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were reasonable, appropriate and in accordance with generally accepted actuarial standards of practice, including:
 - o The use of the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method;
 - o The Actuarial Asset Valuation Method; and



- o The demographic and economic assumptions.
- The mathematical computations performed by the OA in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were appropriate and correct and GRS was able to independently replicate the computation of the employer contributions within less than ½ of 1%; and
- In GRS' review of test cases, GRS was able to confirm that the software used by the OA
 was generally programmed correctly and based on the methods and assumptions adopted
 by the Board, encoded in Statute or determined by the Actuary, as appropriate (any
 exceptions were minor, did not materially affect the results and were identified for the
 OA to review).

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the valuation can be found in our Actuarial Audit of Employer Contributions report for Fiscal Year 2012, dated October 28, 2014.

Administrative Review

GRS has completed the Administrative Review, which included:

- A meeting with OA staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process;
- A meeting with NYCERS staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process; and
- A walk through NYCERS to review security measures taken to ensure the security of sensitive member data.

GRS has concluded the following:

- The data gathering process used by the OA produced data that was sufficiently accurate for use in the Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study;
- Transmission and storage of sensitive member data is done in a secure and appropriate manner; and
- Communications between the OA and NYCERS are on excellent terms and have fostered a cooperative and productive relationship.

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the data collection process can be found in our Administrative Review report dated October 28, 2014.

Experience Study

GRS has completed the Experience Study for the 2-year and 10-year periods ending June 30, 2011. This process involved collecting the Experience Study database developed by the prior Independent Actuary, updating and maturing the data, based on the valuation data used in the June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 actuarial valuations and comparing assumed experience to actual experience. Although the findings indicate that several assumptions differed from experience, GRS believes that:



- The economic assumptions used for the NYCERS June 30, 2010 (Lag) valuation are reasonable and appropriate; and
- The demographic assumptions used are reasonable and appropriate.

GRS has decided to defer recommendations for changes to existing assumptions until the Experience Study for the second engagement. Areas where GRS may recommend changes to assumptions, if experience in FY 12 and FY 13 is similar to the experience in FY 10 and FY 11:

- Transit
 - o Withdrawal
 - o Retirement
 - o Salary Increases
- Sanitation
 - o Withdrawal
 - o Retirement
 - o Salary Increases
- Corrections
 - Mortality
 - o Withdrawal
 - o Retirement
 - o Salary Increases
- Triborough Bridge & Tunnel Authority
 - Mortality
 - Withdrawal
- HT-TP
 - o None

Additional details can be found in our Experience Study report dated October 28, 2014.



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Randall Dziubek, James Anderson, Joseph Newton and Danny White are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (M.A.A.A.) and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

Respectfully Submitted,



Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

Randall J Dziubek, A.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Alternate Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

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Daniel J. White, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Experience Study Director

SECTION B

INDEPENDENT ACTUARY'S STATEMENT FOR THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (TRS)

<u>Independent Actuary's Statement for the Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York (TRS)</u>

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) was retained by the Comptroller to serve as Independent Actuary under Section 96 of the New York City Charter and provide other services related to the review of the funding of the TRS.

GRS has completed the following:

- A Contribution Audit of the computed employer contributions for TRS for fiscal year 2012 (including an audit of actuarial accrued liabilities and actuarial valuation of assets);
- Experience Studies for the Two-Year and Ten-Year periods ending June 30, 2011 for TRS; and
- An Administrative Review of the data gathering and maintenance practices of the Office of the Actuary (OA) and TRS.

Based on the Contribution Audit, the Experience Studies, and the Administrative Review for TRS, GRS certifies that TRS is being funded in accordance with Standards of Practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board and in conformity with applicable New York State and New York City Statutes. Assuming continued funding of TRS by the City/Obligors on the basis used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation, we believe the City's funding objective (that these statutorily required contributions, together with member contributions and assumed investment income will be sufficient to pay benefits when due) will be achieved.

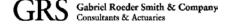
Employer Contribution Audit for Fiscal Year 2012

GRS has performed an actuarial audit of the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation which develops the employer contributions for Fiscal Year 2012. This actuarial audit included:

- A review of actuarial methods and assumptions;
- A replication of the valuation (using GRS software) to verify the computations of Actuarial Value of Assets, Actuarial Liabilities and Employer Contributions;
- A review of several test life cases to validate the programming and software used by the OA to perform the valuation.

GRS has concluded the following:

- Actuarial methods and assumptions adopted by the Board and used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag)
 Actuarial Valuation were reasonable, appropriate and in accordance with generally accepted actuarial standards of practice, including:
 - o The use of the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method;
 - o The Actuarial Asset Valuation Method; and
 - o The demographic and economic assumptions.



- The mathematical computations performed by the OA in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were appropriate and correct and GRS was able to independently replicate the computation of the employer contributions within 3%; and
- In GRS' review of test cases, GRS was able to confirm that the software used by the OA was generally programmed correctly and based on the methods and assumptions adopted by the Board, encoded in Statute or determined by the Actuary, as appropriate (any exceptions were minor, did not materially affect the results and were identified for the OA to review).

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the valuation can be found in our Actuarial Audit of Employer Contributions report for Fiscal Year 2012, dated October 28, 2014.

Administrative Review

GRS has completed the Administrative Review, which included:

- A meeting with OA staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process;
- A meeting with TRS staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process; and
- A walk through TRS to review security measures taken to ensure the security of sensitive member data.

GRS has concluded the following:

- The data gathering process used by the OA produced data that was sufficiently accurate for use in the Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study;
- Transmission and storage of sensitive member data is done in a secure and appropriate manner; and
- Communications between the OA and TRS are on excellent terms and have fostered a cooperative and productive relationship.

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the data collection process can be found in our Administrative Review report dated October 28, 2014.

Experience Study

GRS has completed the Experience Study for the 2-year and 10-year periods ending June 30, 2011. This process involved collecting the Experience Study database developed by the prior Independent Actuary, updating and maturing the data, based on the valuation data used in the June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 actuarial valuations and comparing assumed experience to actual experience. Although the findings indicate that several assumptions differed from experience, GRS believes that:

- The economic assumptions used for the TRS June 30 (Lag) valuation are reasonable and appropriate; and
- The demographic assumptions are reasonable and appropriate.



GRS has decided to defer recommendations for changes to existing assumptions until the Experience Study for the second engagement. Areas where GRS may recommend changes to assumptions, if experience in FY 12 and FY 13 is similar to the experience in FY 10 and FY 11:

- Mortality
- Disability
- Withdrawal
- Retirement

Additional details can be found in our Experience Study report dated October 28, 2014.

Randall Dziubek, James Anderson, Joseph Newton and Danny White are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (M.A.A.A.) and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

Respectfully Submitted,



Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

Kandall J. Dziubek, A.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

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Alternate Project Manager and Experience Study Director

Daniel J. White, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Experience Study Director

SECTION C

INDEPENDENT ACTUARY'S STATEMENT FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (BERS)

<u>Independent Actuary's Statement for the Board of Education Retirement System of the City of New York (BERS)</u>

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) was retained by the Comptroller to serve as Independent Actuary under Section 96 of the New York City Charter and provide other services related to the review of the funding of the BERS.

GRS has completed the following:

- A Contribution Audit of the computed employer contributions for BERS for fiscal year 2012 (including an audit of actuarial accrued liabilities and actuarial valuation of assets);
- Experience Studies for the Two-Year and Ten-Year periods ending June 30, 2011 for BERS; and
- An Administrative Review of the data gathering and maintenance practices of the Office of the Actuary (OA) and BERS.

Based on the Contribution Audit, the Experience Studies, and the Administrative Review for BERS, GRS certifies that BERS is being funded in accordance with Standards of Practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board and in conformity with applicable New York State and New York City Statutes. Assuming continued funding of BERS by the City/Obligors on the basis used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation, we believe the City's funding objective (that these statutorily required contributions, together with member contributions and assumed investment income will be sufficient to pay benefits when due) will be achieved.

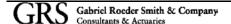
Employer Contribution Audit for Fiscal Year 2012

GRS has performed an actuarial audit of the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation which develops the employer contributions for Fiscal Year 2012. This actuarial audit included:

- A review of actuarial methods and assumptions;
- A replication of the valuation (using GRS software) to verify the computations of Actuarial Value of Assets, Actuarial Liabilities and Employer Contributions; and
- A review of several test life cases to validate the programming and software used by the OA to perform the valuation.

GRS has concluded the following:

- Actuarial methods and assumptions adopted by the Board and used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag)
 Actuarial Valuation were reasonable, appropriate and in accordance with generally accepted
 actuarial standards of practice, including:
 - o The use of the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method;
 - o The Actuarial Asset Valuation Method; and
 - o The demographic and economic assumptions.



- The mathematical computations performed by the OA in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were appropriate and correct and GRS was able to independently replicate the computation of the employer contributions within 1.75%; and
- In GRS' review of test cases, GRS was able to confirm that the software used by the OA was generally programmed correctly and based on the methods and assumptions adopted by the Board, encoded in Statute or determined by the Actuary, as appropriate (any exceptions were minor, did not materially affect the results and were identified for the OA to review).

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the valuation can be found in our Actuarial Audit of Employer Contributions report for Fiscal Year 2012, dated October 28, 2014.

Administrative Review

GRS has completed the Administrative Review, which included:

- A meeting with OA staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process;
- A meeting with BERS staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process; and
- A walk through BERS to review security measures taken to ensure the security of sensitive member data.

GRS has concluded the following:

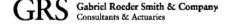
- The data gathering process used by the OA produced data that was sufficiently accurate for use in the Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study;
- Transmission and storage of sensitive member data is done in a secure and appropriate manner; and
- Communications between the OA and BERS are on excellent terms and have fostered a cooperative and productive relationship.

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the data collection process can be found in our Administrative Review report dated October 28, 2014.

Experience Study

GRS has completed the Experience Study for the 2-year and 10-year periods ending June 30, 2011. This process involved collecting the Experience Study database developed by the prior Independent Actuary, updating and maturing the data, based on the valuation data used in the June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 actuarial valuations and comparing assumed experience to actual experience. Although the findings indicate that several assumptions differed from experience, GRS believes that:

- The economic assumptions used for the BERS valuation are reasonable and appropriate; and
- The demographic assumptions are reasonable and appropriate.



GRS has decided to defer recommendations for changes to existing assumptions until the Experience Study for the second engagement. Areas where GRS may recommend changes to assumptions, if experience in FY 12 and FY 13 is similar to the experience in FY 10 and FY 11:

- Mortality
- Disability
- Withdrawal

Additional details can be found in our Experience Study report dated October 28, 2014.

Randall Dziubek, James Anderson, Joseph Newton and Danny White are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (M.A.A.A.) and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

Respectfully Submitted,



Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

Randall J Dziubek, A.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Alternate Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

James D. Anderson, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

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Joseph P. Newton, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Alternate Project Manager and Experience Study Director

Daniel J. White, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Experience Study Director

SECTION D

INDEPENDENT ACTUARY'S STATEMENT FOR THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE PENSION FUND (POLICE)

Independent Actuary's Statement for the New York City Police Pension Fund (POLICE)

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) was retained by the Comptroller to serve as Independent Actuary under Section 96 of the New York City Charter and provide other services related to the review of the funding of POLICE.

GRS has completed the following:

- A Contribution Audit of the computed employer contributions for POLICE for fiscal year 2012 (including an audit of actuarial accrued liabilities and actuarial valuation of assets);
- Experience Studies for the Two-Year and Ten-Year periods ending June 30, 2011 for POLICE; and
- An Administrative Review of the data gathering and maintenance practices of the Office of the Actuary (OA) and POLICE.

Based on the Contribution Audit, the Experience Studies, and the Administrative Review for POLICE, GRS certifies that POLICE is being funded in accordance with Standards of Practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board and in conformity with applicable New York State and New York City Statutes. Assuming continued funding of POLICE by the City on the basis used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation, we believe the City's funding objective (that these statutorily required contributions, together with member contributions and assumed investment income will be sufficient to pay benefits when due) will be achieved.

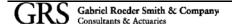
Employer Contribution Audit for Fiscal Year 2012

GRS has performed an actuarial audit of the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation which develops the employer contributions for Fiscal Year 2012. This actuarial audit included:

- A review of actuarial methods and assumptions;
- A replication of the valuation (using GRS software) to verify the computations of Actuarial Value of Assets, Actuarial Liabilities and Employer Contributions;
- A review of several test life cases to validate the programming and software used by the OA to perform the valuation.

GRS has concluded the following:

- Actuarial methods and assumptions adopted by the Board and used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag)
 Actuarial Valuation were reasonable, appropriate and in accordance with generally accepted actuarial standards of practice, including:
 - o The use of the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method;
 - o The Actuarial Asset Valuation Method; and
 - o The demographic and economic assumptions.



- The mathematical computations performed by the OA in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were appropriate and correct and GRS was able to independently replicate the computation of the employer contributions within 1%; and
- In GRS' review of test cases, GRS was able to confirm that the software used by the OA was generally programmed correctly and based on the methods and assumptions adopted by the Board, encoded in Statute or determined by the Actuary, as appropriate (any exceptions were minor, did not materially affect the results and were identified for the OA to review).

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the valuation can be found in our Actuarial Audit of Employer Contributions report for Fiscal Year 2012, dated October 28, 2014.

Administrative Review

GRS has completed the Administrative Review, which included:

- A meeting with OA staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process;
- A meeting with POLICE staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process; and
- A walk through POLICE to review security measures taken to ensure the security of sensitive member data.

GRS has concluded the following:

- The data gathering process used by the OA produced data that was sufficiently accurate for use in the Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study;
- Transmission and storage of sensitive member data is done in a secure and appropriate manner; and
- Communications between the OA and POLICE are on excellent terms and have fostered a cooperative and productive relationship.

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the data collection process can be found in our Administrative Review report dated October 28, 2014.

Experience Study

GRS has completed the Experience Study for the 2-year and 10-year periods ending June 30, 2011. This process involved collecting the Experience Study database developed by the prior Independent Actuary, updating and maturing the data, based on the valuation data used in the June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 actuarial valuations and comparing assumed experience to actual experience. Although the findings indicate that several assumptions differed from experience, GRS believes that:

- The economic assumptions used for the POLICE valuation are reasonable and appropriate; and
- The demographic assumptions are reasonable and appropriate.



GRS has decided to defer recommendations for changes to existing assumptions until the Experience Study for the second engagement. Areas where GRS may recommend changes to assumptions, if experience in FY 12 and FY 13 is similar to the experience in FY 10 and FY 11:

- Salary Increases
- Disability
- Withdrawal

Additional details can be found in our Experience Study report dated October 28, 2014.

Randall Dziubek, James Anderson, Joseph Newton and Danny White are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (M.A.A.A.) and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

Randall № Dziubek, A.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

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Daniel J. White, F.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.

Experience Study Director

SECTION E

INDEPENDENT ACTUARY'S STATEMENT FOR THE NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT PENSION FUND (FIRE)

Independent Actuary's Statement for the New York Fire Department Pension Fund (FIRE)

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) was retained by the Comptroller to serve as Independent Actuary under Section 96 of the New York City Charter and provide other services related to the review of the funding of FIRE.

GRS has completed the following:

- A Contribution Audit of the computed employer contributions for FIRE for fiscal year 2012 (including an audit of actuarial accrued liabilities and actuarial valuation of assets);
- Experience Studies for the Two-Year and Ten-Year periods ending June 30, 2011 for FIRE; and
- An Administrative Review of the data gathering and maintenance practices of the Office of the Actuary (OA) and FIRE.

Based on the Contribution Audit, the Experience Studies, and the Administrative Review for FIRE, GRS certifies that FIRE is being funded in accordance with Standards of Practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board and in conformity with applicable New York State and New York City Statutes. Assuming continued funding of FIRE by the City on the basis used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation, we believe the City's funding objective (that these statutorily required contributions, together with member contributions and assumed investment income will be sufficient to pay benefits when due) will be achieved.

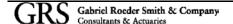
Employer Contribution Audit for Fiscal Year 2012

GRS has performed an actuarial audit of the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation which develops the employer contributions for Fiscal Year 2012. This actuarial audit included:

- A review of actuarial methods and assumptions;
- A replication of the valuation (using GRS software) to verify the computations of Actuarial Value of Assets, Actuarial Liabilities and Employer Contributions; and
- A review of several test life cases to validate the programming and software used by the OA to perform the valuation.

GRS has concluded the following:

- Actuarial methods and assumptions adopted by the Board and used in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were reasonable, appropriate and in accordance with generally accepted actuarial standards of practice, including:
 - o The use of the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method;
 - o The Actuarial Asset Valuation Method; and
 - o The demographic and economic assumptions.



- The mathematical computations performed by the OA in the June 30, 2010 (Lag) Actuarial Valuation were appropriate and correct and GRS was able to independently replicate the computation of the employer contributions within 0.5%; and
- In GRS' review of test cases, GRS was able to confirm that the software used by the OA was generally programmed correctly and based on the methods and assumptions adopted by the Board, encoded in Statute or determined by the Actuary as appropriate (any exceptions were minor, did not materially affect the results and were identified for the OA to review).

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the valuation can be found in our Actuarial Audit of Employer Contributions report for Fiscal Year 2012 dated October 28, 2014.

Administrative Review

GRS has completed the Administrative Review, which included:

- A meeting with OA staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process;
- A meeting with FIRE staff to discuss the data collection process and the benefit calculation/certification process; and
- A walk through FIRE to review security measures taken to ensure the security of sensitive member data.

GRS has concluded the following:

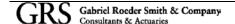
- The data gathering process used by the OA produced data that was sufficiently accurate for use in the Actuarial Valuation and Experience Study;
- Transmission and storage of sensitive member data is done in a secure and appropriate manner; and
- Communications between the OA and FIRE are on excellent terms and have fostered a cooperative and productive relationship.

Additional details along with GRS' suggestions for improving the data collection process can be found in our Administrative Review report dated October 28, 2014.

Experience Study

GRS has completed the Experience Study for the 2-year and 10-year periods ending June 30, 2011. This process involved collecting the Experience Study database developed by the prior Independent Actuary, updating and maturing the data, based on the valuation data used in the June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 actuarial valuations and comparing assumed experience to actual experience. Although the findings indicate that several assumptions differed from experience, GRS believes that:

- The economic assumptions used for the FIRE valuation are reasonable and appropriate; and
- The demographic assumptions are reasonable and appropriate.



GRS has decided to defer recommendations for changes to existing assumptions until the Experience Study for the second engagement. Areas where GRS may recommend changes to assumptions, if experience in FY 12 and FY 13 is similar to the experience in FY 10 and FY 11:

- Salary Increases
- Withdrawal

Additional details can be found in our Experience Study report dated October 28, 2014.

Randall Dziubek, James Anderson, Joseph Newton and Danny White are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries (M.A.A.A.) and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein.

Respectfully Submitted,



Project Manager and Contribution Audit Director

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