



TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: June 16, 2015

TITLE: Ordinance Amending Sections 20-129 and 20-135 of the Code of
Ordinances Relating to the City of Fort Lauderdale Police and Firefighters'
Retirement System – IRS Tax Qualification of the Plan

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt the attached ordinance amending the Code of Ordinance to facilitate the Police & Firefighters' Retirement System's pursuit of its Internal Revenue Code tax qualification.

Background

The City of Fort Lauderdale's Police and Firefighters' Retirement System ("Plan") applied for an IRS Letter of Determination with respect to qualification of the government plan under Internal Revenue Codes and regulations. The proposed ordinance amends and restates the Police and Firefighters' Retirement System Plan as set forth in the attached Exhibit 1 in order to continue compliance with Internal Revenue regulations concerning the qualifications of a government plan.

The following is a summary of the proposed amendments:

- Creating a new Sec. 20-129(d)(3), "Death Incurred During Qualified Military Service" (page 47)
- Amending Sec. 20-129(h)(4), "Payments of Benefits" (pages 53-55)
- Creating a new Sec. 20-129(i), "Limitation on annual benefits" (page 55)
- Creating a new Sec. 20-129(j), "USERRA" (page 55)
- Creating a new Sec. 20-129(k), "Premiums for retired public safety officers" (page 55)
- Creating a new Sec. 20-135(e), "Differential Wage Payments" (page 70)
- Amending Sec. 20-135(g), "Rollover distributions", subsections (1)(b) and (1)(c) thereof regarding Eligible Retirement Plans and Distributees (pages 71-72)

Based upon the preliminary information provided by the Plan's Actuary, the adoption of this Ordinance is in compliance with Resolution No. 12-1979, in that there is no cost

associated with the adoption of this Ordinance for any increase in benefits or new benefit. However, a new actuarial impact statement will be completed between first and second readings of the ordinance.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the City.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Internal Support Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 12: Be a leading government organization, managing its resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective 1: Ensure sound fiscal management.
- Initiative 3: Provide fiscally sustainable employee pensions

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are United*.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Proposed Ordinance

Prepared by: Kirk Buffington, Director of Finance

Department Director: Kirk Buffington, Director of Finance