

Monthly news & updates

January | 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

[2025 Illinois Pension Conference](#)

[2025 MidAmerican Pension Conference](#)

ONLINE TRAINING

[16 Hour Online CTP Course](#)

[8 Hour Online Training](#)

A Message from IPPFA President, James McNamee



Tier Two, which was pushed through without a lot of review or input in order to deal with budget pressures, was not a carefully thought-out piece of legislation. It created a whole new set of problems. Yes, it reduced pension benefits. But they were never the problem. The main cause of underfunding was not funding them properly.

Years ago, this organization raised the alarm on the pension ramp funding method, which reduced taxpayer payments in the beginning and allowed them to grow over time. IPPFA saw that as a threat to the solvency of the retirement system. We sued and lost in the State Supreme Court. I will never forget what the Chief Justice said to me at the time. He told me to come back when people are not being paid. Well, I thought the horse would be out of the barn on that. It would then be too late.

So, this was a problem created by management and they tried to fix it on the backs of the employees. They now have a system that for many will not meet the Social Security compliance requirements.

So, they must fix it. And we also have a problem with recruitment. That means this just cannot be fixed just to match the Social Security benefit rule. It must be improved to attract quality candidates. The risk-reward tradeoff is something that people do when looking at jobs. And it's no longer a local job market. Cities and states are recruiting nationally, and Illinois has fallen behind.

Let us get this done. Tier Two needs to be fixed and greatly improved for all public

employees.

Sincerely,
James McNamee
IPPPFA President

HEROES FAMILY FUND

Hero Spotlight: Officer William Rolniak, Riverdale Police Department



This month, we pay tribute to Detective William Rolniak who tragically lost his life in the line of duty while bravely serving the community of Riverdale. He was taken hostage while working at the police station and was fatally injured while courageously protecting others. The incident occurred as he was assisting in the transfer of a suspect who had been involved in a serious crime. Despite difficult circumstances, Detective Rolniak showed true commitment to his role, even in the face of great danger.

His bravery and dedication continue to inspire and remind us of the sacrifices that officers like him make every day to keep us safe. Detective Rolniak was a

United States Air Force veteran and had served with the Riverdale Police Department for 14 years. He was 39 years old. On March 4th, 2005, Detective William (Wally) Rolniak Jr. Public Safety Building was dedicated in his honor.

May Detective Rolniak's sacrifice, and the impact of his service be forever remembered.

Join Us in Supporting the Heroes Family Fund

Help us honor Detective Rolniak and others like him by contributing to the Heroes Family Fund. Your generosity ensures that we can continue supporting the families of our fallen heroes in their time of need.

Guardian Sponsor: \$10,000+
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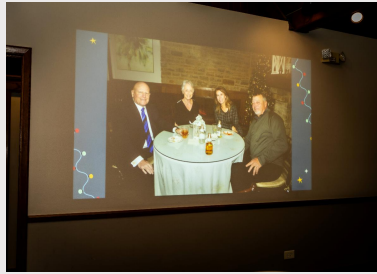
2024 Heroes Family Holiday Gala: A Season of Giving Recap *December 12th, 2024*



Thank You for Making the 2024 Heroes Family Fund Holiday Gala a Success!

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for everyone who joined us at the 2024 Heroes Family Fund Holiday Gala. Your generosity and support helped make this year's event truly unforgettable. Together, we celebrated our shared commitment to supporting families in need and honoring the heroes in our community.





We invite you to relive the magic of the evening by browsing our **photo album**, which captures the heartwarming moments, inspiring speeches, and festive fun.

Thank you once again for your dedication and support. We can't wait to see you at next year's event!

SAVE THE DATE

2025 Illinois Pension Conference
May 7 - 9, 2025



Eagle Ridge Resort
444 Eagle Ridge Drive
Galena, IL 61036

[More Information](#)

REGISTRATION OPENING SOON

2025 MidAmerican Pension Conference

October 1 - 2, 2025



Oak Brook Hills Resort
3500 Midwest Rd.
Oak Brook, IL 60523

[More Information](#)

NEWS LINKS

[Illinois House committee discusses potential pension system fixes](#)

[Major health insurance changes to become law in Illinois](#)

[Eleven States Sue Asset Managers Alleging ESG Conspiracy to Restrict Coal Production](#)

[Anxiety Causing Many to Forego Full Social Security Benefit by Retiring Early](#)

[Kifowit preparing legislation for upcoming lame duck, spring legislative sessions](#)

[Bill to expand Social Security to millions of Americans reaches President Biden's desk](#)

[Congress Repeals Social Security Benefit Reductions for Public Employees](#)

[Pensionomics 2025: Measuring the Economic Impact of DB Pension Expenditures](#)

[New 2024 Population Estimates Show Nation's Population Grew by About 1% to 340.1 Million Since 2023](#)

[Capitalism Could Use Some Likes](#)

[Senate expected to hold final vote on bill to change Social Security rules. Here's what leaders have said](#)

[Chicago's parking meter deal still haunts the city's finances 16 years later](#)

[State launches panel to study climate implications of pension system investments](#)

[Unions Rally in Springfield, Urge Lawmakers to Change State's Tiered Pension System](#)

[Central IL volunteer fire departments facing staffing shortage issues](#)

[Chicago's city council narrowly approves a new city budget that avoids a property tax hike](#)

[Nasdaq Board Diversity Disclosure Rules No Longer in Effect After Overturning by Court](#)

[Fifth Circuit Vacates SEC Approval of Nasdaq's Board Diversity Rules](#)

[The Case for Active Management in 2025](#)

[IL congressman eyes modernizing Veterans Affairs department as House committee chairman](#)

[Former Dixon comptroller – who stole \\$54M – on Biden's clemency list](#)

[How do Americans feel about retirement?](#)

[Ohio House passes bill to boost police pension contributions by cities, but its future is uncertain](#)

[Ruling by a conservative Supreme Court could help blue states resist Trump policies](#)

[20 best cities for retirement](#)

[Texas et al. v. BlackRock, Inc. et al.](#)

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