

12/13/19

Hello,

Hope you all enjoyed the fall season- although it only seemed like only a couple days of fall before the snow started in Denver!

The annual censuses were (finally!) mailed. Unbeknownst to me, the company our printer uses for the envelopes is upgrading their system, so it took two months to get them because of their backlog. I printed and folded the notices the first week of November and noted early due dates assuming I'd have the envelopes much sooner than I did. Because of the delay in getting the mailing out, I included an insert noting **I pushed the return due date back to December 31st**. There are three pages included, each are front and back- the letter from me with instructions, the census page that you'll need to return, and the Medicare Part D Creditable coverage notice (this is just to keep for your records, there is nothing you need to do with it).

The census has a couple changes this year:

- After gathering all your information last year, I was able to insert it into your census. It notes your information and any contact information or spouse information you provided. If nothing has changed, you may check the box, print and sign your name on the back page of the census. If you do have a change, please note what it is incorrect (marital status, address, phone, etc.) and then note the correction on the first page of the census and sign on the back page. If your correction requires supporting documentation (death or marriage certificate, etc.), please include that in the return envelope.
- In the body of the letter the following is in bold: **Your response is required to ensure there is no disruption to your pension payments, as voted by the Police Pension Board on August 22, 2019.**

This is in reference to the Vitality Check process both FPPA and your Pension Board have implemented. In most cases, retiree and widow changes are confirmed in a timely manner and over 80% of you answered the census in 2018. A good portion had spouse changes or included a Power of Attorney we did not have on file previously, so I was able to collect a lot of new data last year for accurate records.

However, there were issues earlier in the year with a small portion of retirees not answering notices from FPPA, Safety HR or DPRA and deaths being reported months after the fact resulting in overpayments on the pension, which are difficult to collect back from family members. To be more proactive, each group implemented a Vitality Check notice to ensure everyone receiving a pension benefit is alive and eligible to receive the pension, or to confirm documents for those with a Power of Attorney. This census is the first step in the City's process for ensuring pensions are being paid accurately. If you do not answer the census, FPPA, or DPRA notices, the case will be turned over to an Investigator for the Pension Board to find you and perform a wellness check. Action on your pension may occur at that point, depending on the findings.

Hopefully, that explains that statement a bit more, but if you have questions on the Vitality Check process, please feel free to reach out to me.

The rank escalation calculations are in process, almost complete and will be sent to FPPA at the end of the month. I did send over the 2020 pay scales to be posted to the DPRA website. You can get an idea of what's coming on your pension from those. I will ensure the signed Pension Board meeting minutes are all posted to the DPD website towards the end of December to confirm everything discussed in 2019.

Upcoming in 2020, I will complete the Pension Board vote and we are looking at doing more education, much of it tailored to retirees (retiree resources, Medicare sessions, etc.). I am also in contact with FPPA to host a panel where New and Old Hire retirees can ask questions. Looking at mid-year to do that, so more to come.

Hope everyone has a safe and peaceful holiday season!

Kind Regards,
Laura Hall
200 W 14th Ave, 3rd Floor
Denver, CO 80204-2732
720.865.8867
Laura.Hall@denvergov.org