

**MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.**

***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*** by Vincent Buttiglieri, 2010 President

Well, as the song goes – *we have rolled out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer*. This is the time of year when we tend to slow down a bit. It is the time of year when we can sit back, enjoy the warmer weather and hopefully, a nice relaxing family vacation.

To be honest with you – in 2010, it's also a frightening time to be a municipal employee. The changes that have been thrust upon all government workers over the past few months regarding health benefit co-pays, pension changes, and furloughs have certainly given me “food for thought”, and I'm sure it has done the same for you too.

With all these changes, it is even more important that the Municipal Clerk's Association of New Jersey remain focused on the issues that will benefit us as individuals and as an organization.

One such issue is the revised OPRA legislation proposed by Senator Weinberg, S1352. There were many changes that our Association could not support. Thanks to the input from all of you, the Executive Board and of course, our attorney, Richard Lustgarten, we have been able to open up a dialogue with Senator Weinberg. I know this will be beneficial to us in making sure that our input is seriously considered when making any changes to the OPRA law.

Now, let's not get too giddy. The process has just started. We have begun to put together language that we feel needs to be changed in the existing legislation. In a letter I received from Senator Weinberg subsequent to our meeting, she reiterated that she is anxiously awaiting our input. This is certainly great news and I feel that we have finally gotten Municipal Clerks to the table on issues that concern us.

I was extremely proud to be able to represent our Association at the IIMC Conference which was held in beautiful Reno, Nevada at the end of May. It is a true honor to be able carry our State flag in the Opening Ceremony. Although we had a smaller than usual attendance, I can assure you that those of us in attendance brought some valuable information that we will share with you over the next few months. Also evident throughout the Conference was that New Jersey Municipal Clerks are very well respected from not only around the United States but worldwide.

Thank you again for this great opportunity. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (732) 531-4968 or via email at [ybuttiglieri@oceantwp.org](mailto:ybuttiglieri@oceantwp.org).



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## MCANJ 2010 Committees - A Call for Volunteers

As President of our Association next year, I would like to invite you to take an active part in the MCANJ by volunteering your time and talents to serve on one of our Committees. I urge you not to sit idly by and let others do the work. MCANJ needs you. I can assure you that it will be one of the most rewarding experiences of your professional career. Only with your involvement can we address the present and future needs of our organization. I hope you will join me by completing the form below and returning it to me via mail, fax or email by September 1, 2010. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please call me at (201) 794-5310. I am looking forward to working with all of you in 2011 and thank you for your participation.

Joanne M. Kwasniewski, 2010 First Vice President

**Constitution & Bylaws:**

Reviews and recommends amendments to the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, with the purpose of enacting sound and fair rules of our organization.

**Education:**

Develops educational programs, reviews the certification and recertification programs and provides for seminars and conferences.

**Elections:**

Examines and evaluates the statutory requirements governing elections in municipalities.

**Education Conference:**

Plans and implements an informative and rewarding program.

**Fund Raising:**

Plans and implements fund raising efforts for the benefit of MCANJ and the Legal Defense Fund.

**Information Technology**

Prepares, provides and reviews information shown on the MCANJ web page. Provides the Executive Board with other means of technology useful to the Municipal Clerk.

**Legal Defense Fund:**

Reviews applications of Fund members for legal assistance and promotes Fund membership.

**Legislative:**

Reviews and monitors all proposed legislation which may affect the Municipal Clerk or our municipalities.

**Legislative Committee for Laws Pertaining to Municipal Clerks:**

In conjunction with the Legislative Committee, monitor and review all proposed legislation that may directly affect the Municipal Clerks' profession.

**Manual Review:**

Provides the annual updates of the Study Guide and Desk Reference manuals in conjunction with the Education Committee and Rutgers University.

**Membership (North and South):**

Strives for 100% membership in MCANJ. Assists the Peer Alliance for Learning Committee (PAL) with notification of "new" Municipal Clerks.

**Peer Alliance for Learning (PAL)**

Identifies new Municipal Clerks and teams them with participating experienced Municipal Clerks who share their knowledge and assistance when needed.

**Professional Development:**

Develops programs and seminars that address the managerial skills needed by today's Municipal Clerks.

**Public Relations:**

Functions as the official Welcome Committee for our members and guests during conferences and other sponsored events. Organizes and manages the MCANJ booth at the Spring Education Conference and the League of Municipalities Conference.

**Quill:**

Provides a comprehensive professional publication for quarterly distribution to Association members.

**Records:**

Reviews pertinent decisions of the Government Records Council regarding the Municipal Clerk's responsibility in complying with the Open Public Records Act.

**Resolutions:**

Presents Resolutions recognizing retired and deceased Municipal Clerks at the annual meeting at the League of Municipalities Conference.

**Scholarship:**

Advertises the availability of scholarships available, reviews applications and selects candidates to receive financial assistance.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality/Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to serve on the following MCANJ Committee(s) during 2011:

1<sup>st</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: Please return by September 1, 2010 to:** Joanne M. Kwasniewski, MCANJ 1st VP  
Borough of Fair Lawn  
8-01 Fair Lawn Avenue  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410  
OR Fax to: (201) 794-9859  
OR E-mail to: [munclerk@fairlawn.org](mailto:munclerk@fairlawn.org)



# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS NEAR!

The Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey will be offering scholarships for the 2010 education year. Municipal Clerks, Deputies and Assistants continuing their education in pursuit of RMC, CMC and MMC certifications are eligible. Candidates for all scholarships MUST be members of the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey. CMC and MMC Scholarship applicants must be tenured Municipal Clerks. Scholarships shall be awarded at the Annual Meeting of the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey on Wednesday, November 17, 2010 during the League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City:

Four (4) RMC Scholarships

One (1) Peter H. Maclearie CMC Scholarship (Includes registration and 1 night's hotel accommodation)

One (1) MMC Scholarship (Includes registration and 1 night's hotel accommodation)

Completed applications should be mailed directly to:

MCANJ SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

c/o Bonnie Leonetti, RMC/CMC

Long Beach Township

6805 Long Beach Boulevard

Brant Beach, NJ 08008-3661

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2010**

You are encouraged to take advantage of this scholarship program offered to you by your Association.

Please complete this application page (or a photocopy of it) and submit it as instructed.

Should you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Leonetti at 609-361-6633.

### **MCANJ 2010 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Appointment as Municipal Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy/Assistant \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:  MCANJ Dues are paid by municipality  MCANJ Dues are paid by member

#### **I am applying for the:**

RMC Scholarship – cost of one (1) course

CMC Scholarship [tenure date \_\_\_\_\_] – for tuition to CMC program by Rutgers University and one (1) night's hotel accommodation.

MMC Scholarship [tenure date \_\_\_\_\_] – for tuition to MMC program by Rutgers University and one (1) night's hotel accommodation.

List RMC, CMC and MMC educational courses taken and indicate whether the municipality or you paid for the course.

**Reminder:** All applicants must be members of the Municipal Clerks' Association of NJ, Inc. Applicants for the CMC and MMC Scholarships must be tenured. *All scholarships are provided as a reimbursement for costs incurred.*

Use a separate sheet of paper for a short statement as to why you feel this scholarship should be awarded to you and attach it to your application.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ROOM RESERVATION FORM

### Tropicana Casino and Resort, Atlantic City, NJ

2010 League of Municipalities Conference, November 16—18, 2010

This year, there is a total block of 44 rooms available to our Association in the Havana section at the rate of 123 per night (plus \$8 occupancy fee, \$7 shuttle fee & \$1 phone fee), and in the rest of the hotel at \$93 per night (plus \$8 occupancy fee, \$7 shuttle fee & \$1 phone fee). If you do not pay by voucher, add the cost of the State sales tax of 13%. These rooms are available on a first-come, first served basis. Any room not reserved by September 10, 2010 will revert back to the League for its use.

League Policy Regarding Cancellations: Anyone canceling a reservation after October 25, 2010, will be responsible for the entire cost of the room. The Municipal Clerks' Association will not be responsible for the cost of any cancelled room. Please remember: If you make your room reservation through the MCANJ, you must cancel through MCANJ, not the hotel directly.

Please Print or Type:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed: Personal Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (or) Voucher # \_\_\_\_\_

I will be arriving on November \_\_\_\_\_, 2010 and departing on November \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

Make payable to Tropicana Casino and Resort in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for one (1) night's deposit.

HAVANA SECTION \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

My reservation will be for three (3) nights at Tropicana Casino and Resort and I acknowledge that I am responsible for the full three (3) nights' accommodation and will honor the cancellation policy of notifying 2nd Vice President Drew Pavlica no later than October 25, 2010. I further accept that cancellations made after this deadline date will require my payment of all cancelled room night costs.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title/MCANJ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Return by September 3, 2010 to:

Drew Pavlica, 2nd Vice President  
Garfield City (Bergen)

Address: 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026-2694

E-mail: [garfieldclerk@optonline.net](mailto:garfieldclerk@optonline.net)

Phone: (973) 340-2001

Fax: (973) 340-5183

Reminder: Tickets for the Wednesday, November 17, 2010 MCANJ BREAKFAST are available through your County Advisory Board Representative. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.





# PEOPLE PAGE *by Sharon Brienza*

## CONGRATULATIONS

### WEDDING BELLS

On April 10, Lisa Burd from Bloomsbury (Hunterdon County) and Drew Reindel were married on the beach in Surf City - Long Beach Island. On a beautiful sunny day, Hunterdon County Clerk Mary Melfi performed the ceremony. We wish the couple all the best for a life time of love and happiness.



### BLOWING MY OWN HORN!

On March 26, 2010, I was honored by the Somerset County Commission on the Status of Women with an Outstanding Woman of the Year Award for Public Service. I was nominated by former Branchburg Mayor/Committeewoman and now Assemblywoman Denise Coyle for my work as the Township Clerk in Branchburg, and of course, my involvement with the Municipal Clerk's Association of New Jersey and Somerset County. And when I returned from the IIMC Conference in Reno, I received recognition from General Code as an Outstanding Municipal Clerk and made part of their Honor Roll.



## MASTERS DEGREE

Hector A. Herrera, RMC, Deputy Clerk, Bridgewater Township (Somerset County) received his Masters in Public Administration from the Rutgers-Newark, the State University of New Jersey

## CONDOLENCES

To Donna Marie Godleski, Municipal Clerk, Bound Brook Borough (Somerset County) on the loss of her father, and to Lauren (Reenie) Fellin, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, Watchung Borough (Somerset County) on the loss of her sister.

## ANNUAL IIMC CONFERENCE

The Annual IIMC Conference was held in Reno, NV and in addition to the many educational opportunities, cold weather and even some snow, everyone had some fun, too!



From front to back left to right: Rich, Wendy (Trump Taj), Flo & Felicia (AC Visitors Center), Jane, Daphne, Vinny, Ray Jean, Allan, Tom/Kathy, Nancy & Sharon

## **JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS**

Founded in 1947, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks is the leading professional association serving the needs of Municipal Clerks, Secretaries, Treasurers and Recorders and other allied associations from cities and towns worldwide. IIMC's primary goal is to actively promote the continuing education and professional development of Municipal Clerks through extensive education programs, certification, publications, networking, annual conferences and research. As an educational catalyst, IIMC inspires Clerks to expand and advance beyond their present levels of development. IIMC also engages in municipal research administration, enhances critical professional skill development and fosters a spirit of mutual assistance and good fellowship among Municipal Clerks around the globe. For more information and directions on how to join the IIMC, visit their website at [www.iimc.com](http://www.iimc.com)

## PEOPLE PAGE, continued

### 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

From the educational sessions to the networking, President Vinny was absolutely correct in his April message to the Association when he said the 2010 Education Conference was a tremendous success!



Lorenzo Langford, Mayor of Atlantic City and President Vinny welcome the attendees on day one of the conference.



Mike Kenny of the *Afterburners* reminding us all how “task saturated” we are and ways to shred tasks.



Representatives of Verizon presenting a \$6,000 check to Administrative Consultant Joel Popkin as their contribution to the conference.

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# FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Richard Lustgarten, MCANJ Legal Counsel

This article is being written in late May so some of the following updates may have changed with significant developments.

At the outset, I am pleased to report that President Buttiglieri, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Kwasniewski and a representative from the League of Municipalities met with Senator Loretta Weinberg (District 37), relating to the Bill that is pending with respect to amendments to the Open Public Records Act. Vinnie and Joanne presented significant information to the Senator and her staff relating to the “real world” of being a municipal clerk. We also presented our concerns relating to the timelines to respond to OPRA requests, and the rather difficult process of searching GRC decisions to decide what is precedential.

We are proposing language changes for the Bill toward the end that our support for transparency in government remains intact, but a more reasoned and reasonable approach will be enacted so that municipal clerks will have sufficient time to respond to requests.

In the course of these discussions, we must be cognizant that the Courts continue to decide cases leaning towards more disclosure rather than less.

On May 10, 2010, the Appellate Division in a case entitled *Burnett vs. County of Gloucester* determined that settlements of disputes and lawsuits against a governmental agency, even though handled by third parties, were subject to disclosure with respect to settlement documents, releases or other similar materials.

In a typical situation where a governmental entity is involved in litigation and is either self-insured or represented through a commercial liability carrier, “outside” attorneys handle the matter and effectuate settlements through the governmental agencies claims adjuster or with the commercial insurance companies’ claims department.

In typical settlements relating to automobile accidents, slip & falls and the like, there is not usually a settlement agreement, but rather a Release from liability and a stipulation of dismissal which are the operative documents. The Release is signed by the claimant and sent to the carrier or the self-insurance claims adjuster and the Stipulation of Dismissal, which usually does not set forth any of the terms of the settlement, is filed with the Court.

The Court decided that there is a significant public interest in settlements because settlements may provide valuable information regarding the conduct of government officials and the condition of government property. Consequently, the Court included these documents as those which must be disclosed.

The Court remanded the case to the trial court on technical issues, but it is clear that if a bona fide OPRA request is made concerning these documents, you cannot deny the request merely because the documents are not physically in your possession. You must make reasonable inquiry of the municipality’s attorneys, insurance carriers, etc., to obtain the documents.

The Court did reaffirm its prior holding that **“Under OPRA, agencies are required to disclose only ‘identifiable’ governmental records not otherwise exempt. Wholesale requests for general information to be analyzed, collated and compiled by the responding governmental entity are not encompassed therein. In short, OPRA does not countenance open-ended searches of an agency’s files.”**

As of this writing, S-1 is wending its way through the legislative process which relates to COAH. If the Bill as presented, and with certain amendments suggested, is actually signed into law, the formula for a municipality’s affordable housing obligation will be dramatically changed, along with the entire process for procedural compliance.

New legislation relating to the “time of decision” rule has been enacted. Basically, when an application for development has been submitted to either the zoning or planning board pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, the governing body had an opportunity to change its ordinances and the Court would review a denial of the application based on the revised law existing at the time of the Board’s decision rather than the earlier time of the application to the Board. Hence this was called “the time of decision” rule. The Legislature has now overruled the “time of decision” application, indicating that it is unfair to applicants who have invested a considerable amount of time and money in an application only to see it defeated because the local applicable ordinance was changed prior to the decision made at the local level.

This change in the law should be the impetus for municipalities to fully review their zoning code classifications.





## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Richard Lustgarten, MCANJ Legal Counsel

Continued from page 8

As of this writing, the newspapers are filled with stories of furloughs, layoffs and the specter that next year will be even worse than this year.

The Governor is at odds with the Legislature over a Supreme Court nominee, the so-called millionaire's tax, and general budgetary issues. No one has a crystal ball to see how all this will play out, but obviously with cutbacks, an angry constituency over taxes, the uncertainty of whether or not the economy will truly turn around, the future is anybody's guess.

Nevertheless, we take victories as they come. The GRC recently reversed itself when it used a lesser standard than was set forth in the statute. The GRC found that while the particular clerk's actions were not "knowing and willful" (the statutory standard), they found the clerk's actions to appear to be "negligent and heedless".

The MCANJ, as did the municipal attorney for the clerk involved, contested this conclusion on the basis that it exceeded the statutory authority of the GRC, effectively libeled the clerk involved and could not stand.

While the GRC stated that it actually did not find the clerk "negligent and heedless" but merely found that there was an appearance of same, the GRC has determined "that it is not necessary to further judge a custodian's violation of OPRA beyond the knowing and willful standard."

The prior finding (my word, their word is "appear") is rescinded and it will not use the lesser standard again.

Regardless of how the GRC attempted to explain its prior finding, the rescission of the lesser "standard" is a win for the MCANJ, the municipality involved and all municipal clerks as custodians of records.

Happy Summer to all and remember the old adage in these tough times, "It is only wise to burn a bridge when you are no longer standing on it."

### MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS ADVANTAGES

A special message from the MCANJ Membership Committee

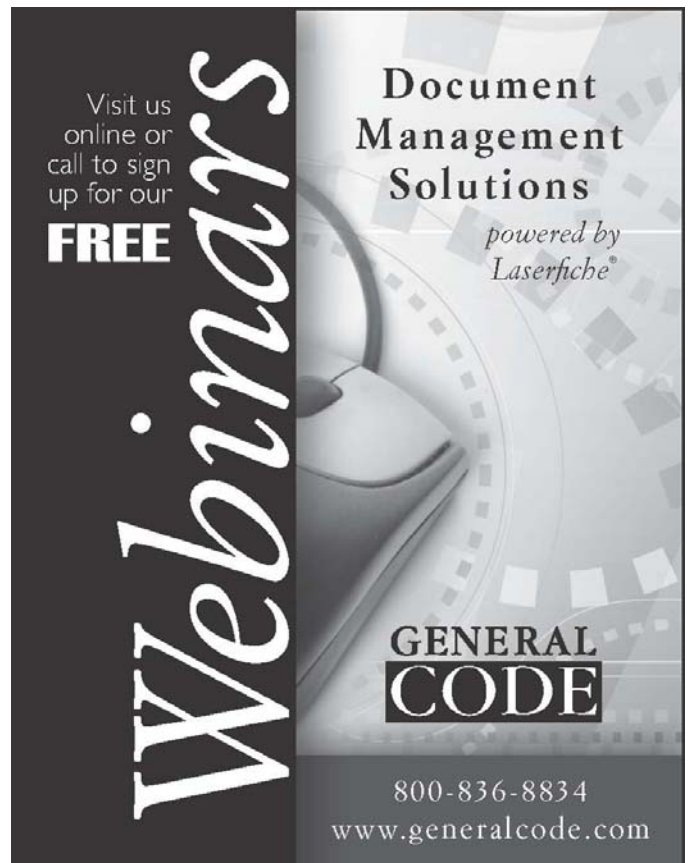
If you are enjoying this issue of the Quill, and would like to continue receiving future issues in the mail ...

#### MAKE SURE YOUR MCANJ 2010 DUES ARE PAID!

The 2010 Executive Board is continuing the practice of tying in the mailing list of the *Quill* with the dues list for 2010 MCANJ membership. So, if you have previously been receiving an issue of the Quill, and find that you are not receiving any more issues in 2010, check to make sure that your MCANJ membership dues are current and up to date. Membership in the Legal Defense Fund also requires that your dues be paid and current.

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# Pension Crisis? The Cause Is NOT Local

By L. Mason Neely, CFO of East Brunswick, NJ

The following is a copy of a letter sent by L. Mason Neely, Chief Finance Officer of East Brunswick, to Governor Chris Christie and to Andrew P. Sidamon-Eristoff, Acting State Treasurer. Mr. Neely is an outspoken proponent of the need for local government officials to pro-actively refute State Government's blame placed upon local government for the fiscal problems of the State of New Jersey. As a guest speaker at the 2009 Clerks' Conference, Mr. Neely passionately offered the message: if you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem.

Dear Governor Christie and Mr. Sidamon-Eristoff,

A recent editorial in the Wall Street Journal was entitled *Pension Bomb Ticks Louder*. It referred to the problem many public pension funds are confronting. You are to be commended because you have started to address some pension issue confronting New Jersey. In conjunction with the Legislature certain provisions have been codified which will prospectively result in savings. I also understand and recognize there are a number of proposed legislative bills in the hopper which would have varying degrees of impact on the pension system and public employees. To this issue I would like to offer a voice on local government. I am confident your advisors fully understand the fiscal dilemma and components of the public pension system's \$46 billion unfunded accrued liability gap which has developed. But it seems no one has explained to the public thus permitting them to distinguish the parts which compose the total problem. A clear analysis of the parts will separate fable from fact. (See Employer Obligation Table Attached)

The annual pension assessment, as established by the Board of Trustees through the Division of Pensions, based upon the actuarial reporting, is composed of three elements. The first element is Normal Employer Contribution. This is the amount the employer funds on an annual basis, coupled with the employee contributes plus investment income or loss. This provides adequate funding for the Retirement System based upon the defined benefit structure and age requirements. When the systems were first established in the 1940's the design was a balance approach where the employer and employee would each contribute 5% and said payments would provide adequate funding based upon the defined benefits to equal funded retirement at the qualified age. Based upon the latest Public Employees Pension System (PERS) actuarial valuation the State is to be billed for Normal Employer Cost at the ratio of 5.35% of salary. State employees contribute 5.5% of salary. This is very close to how the system was designed. For "Other Than State" (Locals), which represents 223,566 local government employees statewide, the Employer Normal Contribution is 3.96% and local employees contribute 5.5%. In this case the local employees are contributing 28% more than their employer towards the Normal Cost of their retirement system. The Police and Fire Retirement System (PFRS) also significantly effects local government. It has the same three components. If one looks at the Normal Employer Contribution the requirement is 15.874% and the local police and fire employee contribution is 8.5%. In this case the employer is contributing 46.45% more than the employees. The system is well out of balance from its original design and must be part of your reform efforts.

The second component of pension costs is referred to as Unfunded Accrued Liabilities. The unfunded liabilities have developed because of numerous factors. One is because of investment losses as a result of the downturn in the economy. Last year the State Investment Council lost \$17 billion. This impact on PERS Local was greater than \$2.3 billion. Part of the Accrued Unfunded Liabilities is Enhanced Benefits for which no normal payments were made. When the N/55 factor pension enhancement was provided, the Legislation fully funded the enhanced benefit through the Benefit Enhancement Trust Fund. The State PERS and Teacher's systems spent those Trust funds through book entry accounting but the local government's Benefit Trust Fund was funded at more than \$500 million prior to being impacted by the investment loss. The Local Trust fund still exists. The actuaries charged the Local Benefit Enhancement Trust each year to pay the N/55 benefit granted. Not so for the State government system. Thus there is no impact of N/55 on the property tax payer. But all systems have a large debt because of non employer payment during what the Legislature called a holiday.

The third component of pension costs is the Non Contributory Group Life Insurance premiums which are part of the Defined Benefit Structure. This is an employer cost.

These three components: Normal Employer Costs, Unfunded Accrued Liabilities and Non Contributory Group Life Insurance, represent the total cost of annually funding the pension benefits granted.

Local governments have been making their pension payments in a timely manner, as required by law. The PERS funding ratio of the Local's is at 71.2%. If investment of assets had not received such a significant loss in the recent market collapse the local portion would be funded at an even higher level. The State funding ratio is 56.4%, which is significantly below the Local's. This is because the State has not contributed, through the budget process, the required contributions. The net result demonstrates Local PERS employers are funding their pension obligations at a ratio greater than the level of expenditures. This is just the opposite for the systems for which the State has an obligation. Local pensions are improving because employees and employers are funding their obligation. Investment of assets are improving with the market and the Local Benefit Enhancement Trust Fund continues to be viable and funding the cost of the N/55 benefit granted to local employees.

Brown's River Ad

# Pension Crisis? The Cause Is NOT Local

Continued from page 10

I began this letter by referencing the Wall Street Journal article *Pension Bomb Ticks Louder* but it is important for you to realize and for those who have received a copy of this letter, that circumstances at the local level are, and have been, improving because of the factors. The local employer is paying the required contribution and local employees are paying their required contribution. Investments show growth and N/55 is funded. It is reasonable to expect the 71.2% funding ratio for the PERS system will improve for local governments when the next Valuation Report is developed. As the State bleeds the systems the Valuation Report will show further denigration expanding to the State's unfunded obligation.

The PFRS is the most costly system facing the local taxpayer. Recall the Normal Employer costs ratio 15.874% and employee 8.5%. The employer PFRS unfunded rate is 14.58% because of holidays and State mandated benefits provided without funding. Action is required to correct this imbalance, for when this system was designed to be equal cost of employee and employer it now costs taxpayers \$31.66 for every \$100 of PFRS salary.

The pension bomb is ticking loudly for State obligation. But the local governments have been, and will continue, to diffuse the PERS time bomb. Your action is needed to diffuse the PFRS time bomb. It seems to me your advisors should publicly recognize where the bulk of the \$46 billion unfunded liability rests. The next time you comment on a pension problem confronting New Jersey you would be well advised to differentiate between the State's obligation, which is growing at an unsustainable rate, and the local PERS and PFRS portion, which is being funded.

Respectfully,  
L. Mason Neely, Chief Finance Officer

<b>Pension Funding Ratios - Per Dollar of Pay</b>				
	<b>State Obligation</b>		<b>Local Obligation</b>	
<b>System</b>	<b>Employer</b>	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Employer</b>	<b>Employee</b>
<u><b>PERS</b></u>				
Normal Cost	5.35%	5.5%	3.96%	5.5%
Unfunded	10.79%	N/A	6.31%	N/A
NCI	0.64%	N/A	0.78%	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.78%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>11.05%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
<u><b>PFRS</b></u>				
Normal Cost	16.20%	8.5%	15.874%	8.5%
Unfunded	20.61%	N/A	14.580%	N/A
NCI	1.46%	N/A	1.203%	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.28%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>31.657%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>
<u><b>TPAF</b></u>				
Normal Cost	7.07%	5.5%	N/A	N/A
Unfunded	11.67%	N/A		
NCI	0.36%	N/A		
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.10%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>		
<b>Unfunded Liability for Three Years By System</b>				
<u><b>PERS</b></u>				
State	\$8,254,609,479			
Local	\$7,357,559,907			
<u><b>PFRS</b></u>				
State	\$1,738,492,545			
Local	\$7,724,388,422			

*League of Municipalities Conference  
November 16-18, 2010*

**The Annual Business Meeting will be held on November 17, 2010 at the Tropicana Casino and Resort Hotel. Tickets are \$30 each and are available through your Advisory Board representative (see page 2 for listing by County).**

**MCANJ Breakfast Buffet will be served from 8:30-9:30 a.m.  
Annual Business Meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m.**

**2011 MCANJ Officers sworn in**

**Newest RMCs, CMCs and MMCs honored**

**Who will be “Municipal Clerk of the Year”?**

**DEADLINES FOR NEWS ITEMS**

The deadline for the October issue is August 27, 2010. Please send People Page news to Sharon Brienza, Municipal Clerk, Branchburg Borough, 1077 US Highway 202 North, Branchburg, NJ 08876. Questions or comments regarding this or any issue of the *Quill* should be directed to the Editor, Jim Doherty, Township of Wantage, 888 Route 23, Wantage, NJ 07461 or by calling 973-875-7192 or via email to: [administrator@wantagewp-nj.org](mailto:administrator@wantagewp-nj.org). Articles for submission should be prepared in Microsoft Word, using Times New Roman 10-point font, and sent as an email attachment to [administrator@wantagewp-nj.org](mailto:administrator@wantagewp-nj.org) by the deadline specified.

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