



For Immediate Release
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LASERS Investment Performance 18.8%

Baton Rouge— The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) ended the June 30, 2014 fiscal year with an investment return of 18.8 percent. This stellar performance brings the total asset value of the System to \$11 billion, the highest in the history of LASERS.

This fiscal year return places the System in the top ten among 90 other public retirement funds greater than \$1 billion, according to Wilshire's Trust Universe Comparison Service (TUCS). TUCS is the most widely accepted benchmark for the performance of institutional assets and represents the largest database of any peer-comparison service in the industry.

"For the second year in a row, we have had double digit market returns," said LASERS Chief Investment Officer Bobby Beale, "and we attribute this to a well-diversified asset allocation across asset classes and geographies. Specifically this year, strong performance in the domestic and international equity markets had a definite impact on returns."

"Wilshire Associates, Inc. reported that, for the one-year period, public pensions with assets greater than \$1 billion experienced a median return of 17.4 percent, so it is particularly exciting to share news of our 18.8 percent return with our members and the state as a whole," said LASERS Executive Director Cindy Rougeou. "We set the bar high because LASERS is working for Louisiana."

LASERS provides a defined benefit pension plan that covers approximately 150,000 members. LASERS pays over \$1 billion in annual benefits to retirees and their beneficiaries, providing a strong and reliable economic stimulus for Louisiana.

For more information, please contact LASERS Public Information Director Tonja Normand at 225.922.1131 or tnormand@lasersonline.org.

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