

For Immediate Release

August 23, 2017

LASERS Reports 15.8% Investment Return

Baton Rouge— The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) ended the June 30, 2017 fiscal year with an investment return of 15.8 percent. This performance ranks as one of the highest in the history of LASERS, increasing the total asset value of LASERS to over \$11 billion.

This fiscal year return places LASERS in the top third percentile of 86 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.

"The benefit of global diversification is evident in our investment returns," LASERS Chief Investment Officer Bobby Beale said. "LASERS Board of Trustees and staff strive to be forward-thinking, disciplined, and efficient while continuing to allocate assets for the long term. We are pleased with our plan performance and believe that LASERS is well positioned to meet its future goals and objectives."

"LASERS 15.8% return far exceeds our 7.75% expected rate of return as well as the TUCS universe median of 12.7%," LASERS Executive Director Cindy Rougeou said. "These measures of success are attributable to the wise decision-making of our Board and to our exceptional investment team, always working to provide retirement security for our members."

LASERS provides a defined benefit pension plan that covers approximately 100,000 members. LASERS Benefits Louisiana by paying over \$1 billion in annual benefits to beneficiaries, providing a strong and reliable economic stimulus for Louisiana.

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