



Louisiana State Employees'  
Retirement System

**For Immediate Release**

**January 25, 2019**

### **LASERS Board Elects Chair and Vice Chair**

**Baton Rouge** – The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) Board of Trustees unanimously elected Shannon Templet and Thomas Bickham as the 2019 Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, at its January meeting. The 13-member policy-making Board of Trustees has fiduciary oversight over LASERS.

Templet, Director of Human Resources for the House of Representatives, will lead the LASERS Board as new Chair. She has served as an active member Trustee since 2012. Templet most recently chaired the Management Committee of the Board and previously served as Board Chair in 2014.

Bickham, Undersecretary for the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, is the new Vice Chair. He has also served as an active member Trustee since 2012. Bickham previously chaired the Audit, Investment, and Management Committees of the Board, in addition to serving as Board Chair in 2015.

"For more than seven years, Shannon Templet and Thomas Bickham have demonstrated their deep commitment to the preservation of the retirement system in order to provide current and future benefits to our members," said LASERS Executive Director Cindy Rougeou. "Their continued leadership will be a tremendous resource to the Board in 2019."

LASERS administers 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 the state.

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