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NEWS to USE FOR EMPLOYERS

Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho

October 2022

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DIRECTOR DRUM COMPLETES HIS TERM AS BOARD PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATORS

This past August, at the 68th National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA) conference, Director Drum completed his term as President. His expertise and leadership helped strengthen relationships with pension system leaders and led the conversation toward creating a sustainable future for public pension systems.

Founded in 1955, NASRA is one of the industry's leading research centers for public pension systems in the nation. The non-profit association includes members that are directors of the nation's state, territorial, and largest statewide public retirement systems.

During the "Changing Tides – Building the Future" conference, leaders in the fields of retirement plan investment and administration covered a variety of subjects, including investment management, world events applicable to the pension industry, the economy, human resources, trends, and much more.

The conference returned to in-person attendance after being upended by the pandemic in early 2020. With Director Drum's vast experience and understanding the importance of meeting in-person, the conference was well attended by leadership from public retirement systems across the nation.

Pension system leaders and NASRA staff mentioned Director Drum's overall influence and impact on them and the association.

"President Drum exemplifies the best qualities of leadership and NASRA was a direct beneficiary of his skill and dedication. He also is a great friend and supporter to all in the public pension community!" said Ms. Dana Bilyeu, NASRA Executive Director.



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“Don was one of the first people I met through NASRA after becoming the Executive Director of the Utah Retirement Systems and has been a fantastic mentor and friend ever since. Don’s experience, wisdom, poise, and sense of humor have not only benefitted me, but the entire public pension industry as he has shared his talents and perspective with others across the country. As President of NASRA (and during his time as vice president) all of Don’s qualities were on display as he helped all of us through challenging times the past few years. Idaho is truly fortunate to have Don leading PERSI.” said Mr. Dan Andersen, Executive Director of Utah Retirement Systems.

“As I look back over my nearly 30 years of serving our incredible public servants, Don has truly been an inspiration. True leadership is by example. Don is no excuses. He’s about getting off your backside and just getting it done. There is no one I respect more than Don Drum.” said Mr. Robert L. Wilson, Executive Director of Missouri LAGERS.

Director Drum will continue to serve and contribute on NASRA’s executive committee as a Past President.

PERSI TRAINING SPECIALIST FEATURED IN...

The Plan Sponsor Council of America recently invited PERSI Training Specialist, Maria Sablan-Quitugua, to contribute an article about the importance of connecting with employees and employers.

Her article, “Relationships Matter!”, shares her unique perspective as a public service employee educating Idaho’s public workers about PERSI retirement benefits and the role professional relationships play in successfully reaching members.

Ms. Sablan-Quitugua explains how building relationships, builds partnerships:

“It is important to build relationships with your points of contact. You have probably heard this a lot in business and workplaces; they say, “Build camaraderie because it helps cultivate a good working environment.” Camaraderie comes from the French language, and it is the origin of English’s “comrade,” meaning friend or associate. In other words, be a friend and be personable. Communicate that you understand the complexities of scheduling and you are willing and patient enough to work it through. Build trust and be flexible.

Provide employee education and employer support. Offer workshops that enable employers to take a proactive, data driven role in their employee education; it requires a lot of communication and correspondence.

‘I want our employee members to be “retirement literate” and to help them realize the value of their benefits.’

Collect data and resources prior to reaching out so you can be ready to plan for workshops that are customizable to fit their needs. Gathering information ahead of time shows your contacts that they are important because you invested your time in them. It shows that you are serious, that they are important, and you mean business.

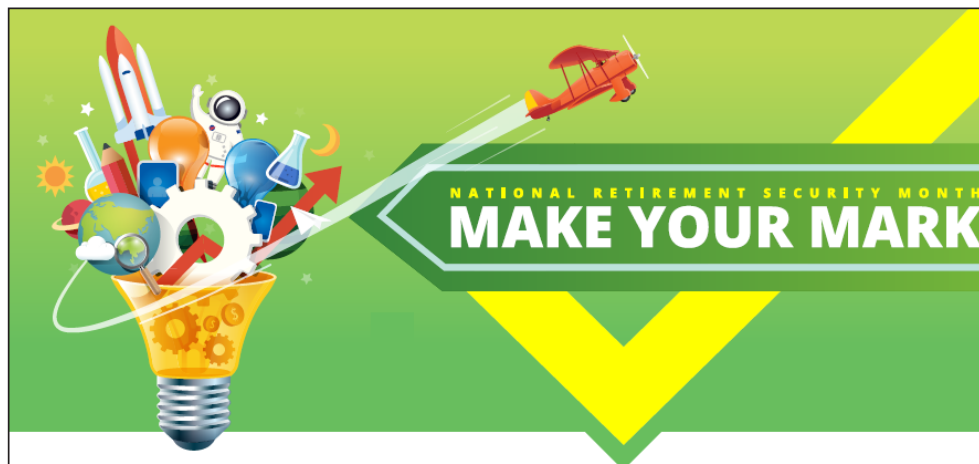
I gather data like employee count, length of service, type of agency/employer etc. I want employers to know that I am here to help their employees, but I am also here to help them recruit and retain their employees.”

Her article continues with tips on expanding and cultivating “camaraderie” and trust. To read the article in full, click the below link:

Relationships Matter!

[Connection and understanding is the first step in successfully educating employees about retirement.](#)

**PRESENTED BY EMPOWER,
RECORDKEEPER OF THE PERSI CHOICE 401(K) PLAN**



Invite your employees to the next educational webinar for PERSI members

Join Empower, during National Retirement Security Month, to learn how Social Security, the PERSI Base Plan and Choice 401(k) Plan fit together in your employee's retirement picture.

WHO – All PERSI Members

WHAT – Educational webinar covering important aspects of Social Security basics, the PERSI Base Plan and a Choice 401(k) Plan overview by Empower

WHY – To understand the complete picture about your retirement

WHERE – Anywhere you'd like, it's virtual!

WHEN – Thursday, October 27 at 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

R.S.V.P. SPACE IS LIMITED
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!

Questions? Visit mypersi401k.com -> *Meet Your plan representatives* and reach out to Empower's local Retirement Plan Counselors.

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