


**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION
COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

DATE: February 17, 2016

TO: Theo Lipscomb Sr., Chairman,
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James A. Carroll, Assistant Corporation Counsel; on behalf of the Pension Board for the Milwaukee County Employees' Retirement System


SUBJECT: Request for Amendments to Ethics Code quarterly filing requirement for Pension Board members and officers; section 9.03(4).

At its meeting on February 17, 2016, the Pension Board voted 6-0 to request that the County Board amend the ethics code requirement that Pension Board members and officers file a statement of economic interest (SEI) on a quarterly basis rather than on an annual basis as is required for all others required to file an SEI. The attached resolution and ordinance amendment eliminates the quarterly filing and imposes the same annual filing requirement on the Pension Board members as it imposes on county elected officials, certain employees and on members of other boards and commissions.

The Pension Board understands that the quarterly filing requirement was imposed following the ethics code convictions of some Pension Board members over ten years ago. The Pension Board believes that the primary issue that arose in those matters was the failure to report certain matters. The Pension Board does not believe that imposing a quarterly filing requirement eliminates the issue addressed in those matters. Consequently, the Pension Board believes that the quarterly filing requirement imposes a burden without any consequential increase in oversight or elimination of such violations. Last, the Pension Board believes that the policies that allegedly justified the quarterly filing requirement for its members are no different than those for others who are required to file an SEI and believes that the requirements should be the same for all such filers.

The Pension Board appreciates the County Board's consideration of this request.

cc: Kelly Bablitch
Janelle Jensen
Steve Cady
Raisa Koltun
Marian Ninneman