

## Robbins Elected; Harris and Martin Need Your Vote

RELAC Director **Les Robbins** has been elected to a third term as retirees' representative on the LACERA Board of Retirement. No other person filed for the seat, resulting in Robbins' automatic election.

The RELAC Board of Directors urges members to vote for **Debbie Martin** and **J.P. Harris** to fill the remaining retiree seats on the LACERA Boards of Investments and Retirement. Both are RELAC directors.

Martin faces one challenger for the Board of Investments seat now occupied by Joseph Kelly, who is not seeking reelection. Harris also has one challenger in his bid to win a third term as the alternate retiree representative on the LACERA Board of Retirement.

The retiree seats on the LACERA boards have historically been filled by RELAC directors, helping to ensure retirees' interests are protected and allowing RELAC to assist its members in resolving any issue with LACERA that may arise.

LACERA members who were retired on or before April 15 are eligible to vote in the election, which will be held Aug. 4-31. Members may vote by mail, phone or e-mail. Ballots will be mailed to all on Aug. 2. Voter information and log-in credentials will be e-mailed on Aug. 4 to retirees who have valid e-mail addresses on file with LACERA. Those who do not have an e-mail address or have an invalid e-mail address on file with LACERA will receive log-in credentials and voter information with their paper ballots.

The Board of Retirement and Board of Investments govern LACERA, which is an independent government entity that is separate and distinct from the County of Los Angeles. LACERA administers and manages the retirement fund for the County and outside special districts, one of the largest county retirement systems in the United States.

The Board of Retirement is responsible for the administration of the retirement system, the retiree health care program, and the review and processing of disability retirement applications. The Board of Investments is responsible for establishing LACERA's investment policy and objectives, exercising authority and control over the investment management of the fund, and establishing contribution rates to assure proper funding of the system.

The County of Los Angeles established a pension trust fund in 1937 to provide defined retirement and death benefits to eligible County employees. The following year LACERA was established to administer the program. In 1971 LACERA also began administering the retiree health care benefits program.