

Corrections Officer Retirement Plan Local Board for the Judiciary
Rules of Local Board Procedure
Adopted Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(F)

A. Definitions

1. “A.R.S.” means Arizona Revised Statutes.
2. “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Plan (including any persons authorized by the Administrator to act for the Administrator) acting for the benefit of the Board of Trustees as more particularly described in A.R.S. § 38-848(N).
3. “Board of Trustees” has the meaning ascribed to that term in A.R.S. § 38-881(9).
4. “Claim” means any request for relief under the Plan involving all questions of eligibility for Membership, Disability Retirement and Killed In the Line of Duty Death Benefits, which is properly before a Local Board for Decision, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(D), including questions of whether benefits are consistent with and allowable under the Plan, as contemplated by that section. Any opinions rendered by the Local Board on such questions are Decisions as defined in paragraph 6.
5. “Claimant” has the meaning ascribed to that term in A.R.S. § 38-881(10).
6. “Decision” means any orders issued by a Local Board relating to a Claim, including orders denying a request for Rehearing or further relief.
7. “Decision on Rehearing” means a Decision issued by the Local Board after a Rehearing.
8. “Employee” has the meaning ascribed to that term in A.R.S. § 38-881(22).
9. “Employer” has the meaning ascribed to that term in A.R.S. § 38-881(23).
10. “Hearing” means the Local Board’s initial public Meeting concerning a Claim, which is conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and these Rules.
11. “Independent Legal Counsel” means legal counsel who is not an employee of or contracted with the employer or any employee organization, and who does not represent a member before any Local Board or any judicial appeal of a Local Board Decision as provided in A.R.S. § 38-893(N).
12. “Initial Decision” means the first Decision on a Claim issued by the Local Board.
13. “Killed in the line of duty” means that the decedent’s death was the direct and proximate result of physical injuries incurred in the performance of the decedent’s probation, surveillance or juvenile detention duties and does not include suicide pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-888(B).
14. “Local Board” means the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan Local Board for the Judiciary.
15. “Meeting” is a gathering of a quorum of the Local Board to conduct business and to hold Hearings and/or Rehearings, which is conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and these Rules.
16. “Member” has the meaning ascribed to that term in A.R.S. § 38-881(27).

17. “Minutes” means the written official record of the proceedings, including the testimony of witnesses.
18. “Notice” means a written Notice of Hearing or Rehearing, as applicable, which includes, at minimum: (i) a statement of the time, place and nature of the Hearing or Rehearing; (ii) a statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the Local Board will be conducting the Hearing or Rehearing; (iii) a reference to the particular section(s) of the A.R.S. (and/or any other applicable rules) involved in the particular matter presented for Decision; and (iv) a short and plain statement of the matters asserted by the Claimant or issues to be considered at the Hearing or Rehearing.
19. “Open Meeting Law” is that body of laws described in A.R.S. Title 38, Ch. 3, Article 3.1, which requires public bodies, such as the Local Board, to hold its meetings and conduct its activities in public, except in those limited circumstances described in A.R.S. § 38-431.03.
20. “Party or Parties” means the Claimant, Local Board and Board of Trustees.
21. “Plan” means the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan, as described in A.R.S. § 38-881, *et seq.*
22. “Pre-Membership Physical” means a medical examination of an Employee before the Employee joins the Plan conducted for the purpose of identifying physical or mental conditions or injuries that existed or occurred prior to the Employee’s date of membership in the Plan, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-884.
23. “Presiding Officer” means the Chair or Acting Chair of the Local Board, who presides over any Meeting, Hearing or Rehearing.
24. “Rehearing” means a public Meeting before the Local Board that is conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and these Rules, to consider a Claimant’s or the Board of Trustee’s request that the Local Board reconsider its Initial Decision, as provided by A.R.S. § 38-893(H).
25. “Rules” means these Rules of Local Board Procedure authorized by A.R.S. § 38-893(F).
26. “Secretary” means the person so designated and elected pursuant to A.R.S. § 38- 893(M), who is charged with keeping a record and preparing agendas, Minutes and Decisions of all Hearings and Rehearings of the Local Board.
27. “State Agency Local Board” means any Local Board where the sponsoring Employer is an agency, board, commission, department or other administrative unit of the State of Arizona.
28. “Subcommittee” means a group of no more than two Local Board members appointed by the Board Chair to undertake Local Board business.

B. Purpose and Scope of Procedures

1. Board Responsibility. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(D), the Local Board is responsible for deciding all questions of eligibility for membership, disability retirement and killed in the line of duty death benefits under the Plan. The Board of Trustees cannot pay benefits under the Plan without the direction and approval of the Local Board.
2. Scope. These Rules govern all Claims before the Local Board for Decision, effective for

any Claims brought, and any Hearing and Rehearing held, after the effective date of adoption of these Rules by the Local Board.

3. Conflict. These Rules are authorized by A.R.S. § 38-893(F) and supplement all authority of the Local Board specified in that statute. Should any of these Rules conflict with any provision of A.R.S. § 38-893 or any other Arizona law, the provisions of Arizona law shall control. State Agency Local Boards may be subject to additional laws as provided by A.R.S. Title 41, Ch. 4, Article 6.
4. No Legal Advice. These Rules do not constitute legal advice. Local Boards are encouraged to consult with their Independent Legal Counsel to resolve questions of law.

C. Composition of the Board and Conduct of Meetings

1. Composition. The Local Board is comprised of two Members who are elected by secret ballot by Members who are employed as probation, surveillance or juvenile detention officers; one person who is a designee of the chief justice of the Arizona supreme court; and two citizens of the State of Arizona who are appointed by the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, one of whom shall be the head of a human resource department for the group of Members.
2. Election of Board Members. The Board's procedure for conducting an election for Board members is established in the CORP Board Member Election Action Plan, incorporated by reference herein, and attached as Appendix A. The Secretary shall maintain the Election Action Plan.
3. Chair. The Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court shall appoint a Chair.
4. Secretary. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(M), the Local Board shall elect a Secretary who may, but need not, be a member of the Local Board.
5. Quorum. A quorum for the purpose of doing business is three (3) members.
6. Meetings, Minutes and Decisions. Meetings are generally held at 10:00 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, but can be held at any time upon the call of the Chair, any two members of the Local Board, or the Secretary of the Local Board, with appropriate notice to the members of the Local Board and the public. The Local Board shall meet at least twice per year.
 - a. Meetings are generally held at the Arizona State Courts Building, 1501 W.; Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007, but may be held at an alternative location, virtually, or telephonically with appropriate notice to the members of the Local Board and the public.
 - b. The Secretary shall provide an agenda to the Local Board members in advance of any Meeting, describing the business to be addressed at such Meeting. The content of the agenda shall comply with the Open Meeting Law.
 - c. Notice of all Meetings of the Local Board shall be given, and all Meetings and any executive sessions shall be conducted, in conformance with the Open Meeting Law.
 - d. Provided the quorum is met, a majority vote of Local Board members present and

eligible to vote shall govern any action taken.

- i. Local Board members not present in person may attend by telephone or other electronic means permitting meaningful participation in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.
 - e. The Secretary shall cause appropriate Minutes to be taken of Local Board Meetings, and an electronic recording may be made of Meetings to facilitate preparation of such Minutes.
 - i. For Meetings at which no disability claims have been considered, such electronic recordings shall be maintained for ninety (90) days after the Minutes have been submitted to the Board of Trustees.
 - ii. For Meetings at which a disability claim was considered, such electronic recordings shall be maintained until the Claimant reaches his or her normal retirement date.
 - iii. The Secretary may destroy the electronic recording of a Local Board Meeting after the period in Section C(6)(e)(1) or (2) expires. The Secretary will prepare and retain a certificate of destruction when any electronic recordings are destroyed.
 - f. The Secretary shall submit a copy of all Decisions and Meeting Minutes to the Board of Trustees (in care of the Administrator) no later than twenty (20) business days after the Local Board takes an action on a Claim. Decisions and Meeting Minutes shall be sent by email or certified mail. Decisions sent by email shall be sent via secure electronic protocols if personal identifiable information is contained in the Decision. A Decision shall contain, at minimum: (i) the name of the member affected by the Local Board's action; (ii) a description of the action taken; (iii) an explanation of the reasons supporting the Local Board's action; and (iv) all documents submitted to the Local Board for the action taken, including the reports of a medical board.
 - g. Unless the Claimant is present at a Meeting at which the Local Board announces its Decision on a Claim, at the same time that the Secretary submits the Decision to the Administrator, the Secretary shall send the Local Board's Decision to the Claimant via certified mail.
7. Documentation. In a location separate from any Employer personnel or department files, the Local Board Secretary shall maintain files for each Claimant, containing public and confidential documents presented to the Local Board.
8. Audit/Compliance – Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(S), the Board of Trustees or its designee may conduct an audit to ensure the Local Board is in compliance with statute or the Model Uniform Rules for Local Board Procedure. If the Local Board is not in compliance with statute or the Model Uniform Rules of Local Board Procedure, the Board of Trustees shall notify the Local Board. The Local Board shall have sixty (60) days to take corrective action.
9. Changes/Updates – Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(R), within 10 days after a change to Local Board membership, Secretary, or Independent Legal Counsel, the Local Board shall submit

the names of the Local Board members and terms, the Secretary and Independent Legal Counsel to PSPRS.

10. Education/Training – Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(C), within one hundred eighty (180) days after appointment or election, each Local Board member and Secretary shall complete the local board training as prescribed by the Board of Trustees.

D. Pre-Membership Physical

1. Examination. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-884, the Local Board shall contract with a designated physician or a physician working in a clinic that is appointed by the Local Board to complete a medical examination.
2. Appointment. The Employer shall coordinate appointments for the Employee's Pre-Membership Physical.
3. Report. A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(6) does not authorize a Local Board or Employers to request personal medical records of individuals gathered, collected or accumulated from a Pre-Membership Physical, nor request, obtain or possess medical records separate from the Pre-Membership Physical. Statute directs the examining physician to report any existence of a pre-existing medical condition or injury to the Local Board, and for the Secretary to preserve the report documents as a permanent record of the Local Board. The physician or clinic retained to conduct an Employee's Pre-Membership Physical shall provide a written report of the results of the Pre-Membership Physical to the Secretary within 10 days after the examination. The Secretary shall file the report as a permanent record, as required by A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(6).
4. Finding of Pre-Existing Condition. If the physician's or clinic's report on an Employee with respect to the Employee's pre-membership condition concludes that the Employee has a pre-existing condition:
 - a. The Secretary shall notify the Employee that the physician or clinic has reported that the Employee has a pre-existing condition. The Employee shall have 30 days to submit additional documentation or comments to the Secretary before the physician's or clinic's report is placed on an agenda for the Local Board's consideration.
 - b. Reports concerning an Employee's pre-existing condition shall be placed on the Meeting agenda for recognition by the Local Board.
 - c. The Secretary shall provide the Local Board with any additional documentation or comments submitted by an Employee regarding a physician's or clinic's conclusion that an Employee has a pre-existing condition.
 - d. The Local Board shall review the physician's or clinic's report and any additional documentation submitted by the Employee at a Meeting. After review of the relevant documents, the Local Board will take any action the Local Board deems necessary and appropriate.
 - e. The Secretary shall file all reports concerning an Employee's pre-existing conditions as a permanent record, as required by A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(6), along with

any additional documentation and comments provided by the Employee, and appropriate records of any actions or determinations by the Local Board with respect to same.

5. Completion of Physical Exam for a Prior Employee Returning to Work for a Participating Employer. The Local Board will require the completion of a physician's or clinic's medical exam by an applicant for employment that was a previous Plan Member who has not refunded or forfeited plan contributions, and that previously left employment for any reason other than retirement or death, when that applicant accepts a position with a Participating Employer.

The basis for a new medical exam is the prior termination of employment of the Plan Member from a Participating Employer for any reason other than retirement or death, which severs the Plan Member status of the applicant. The examining physician shall provide a written report of the results to the Secretary of the Local Board for the Judiciary within 10 days after the examination. The Secretary shall file the report as a permanent record, as required by A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(6).

In the event that the returning Employee refuses to complete a new physical exam, that Employee will be subject to the terms of A.R.S. § 38-884(B), which provides that the Employee is deemed to have waived any rights to disability under Article 6 of Title 38.

E. Initial Decision

1. Submitting Claims. A Claimant may request that the Local Board issue an Initial Decision by presenting an application to the Secretary, using the prescribed Plan forms. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-847.03, the Secretary shall submit, within 10 days, a copy of the application being presented for Decision to the Administrator. All Claims are subject to this Section concerning an Initial Decision. However, more detailed procedures for certain Claims, specifically disability benefit applications and reexamination of disability recipients, are set forth in Sections F and H. All Claims shall be placed on the agenda for consideration by the Local Board, after appropriate Notice to the Claimant, unless considered a Claim under paragraph 3 of this Section.
2. Content of Claims. If desired, a Claimant may supplement the application for benefits by submitting a letter to the Secretary. In order for any supplemental letter to be considered by the Local Board, such letter shall set forth: (i) the name and address of the Claimant; (ii) the name and address of the Claimant's attorney, if applicable; (iii) a brief statement of the facts forming the basis of the Claim, including any evidence relevant to the Local Board's Decision on the Claim; and (iv) the precise relief sought by the Claimant from the Local Board.
3. Consent Agenda. The Local Board may authorize its Secretary to determine whether a Claim is to be treated by the Local Board as a "Consent Agenda" item. Ordinarily, the Secretary does not provide Notice of a Hearing to Claimants for Claims on the Consent Agenda, because the Local Board generally approves Consent Agenda items summarily. If a Claim on the Consent Agenda warrants discussion by the Local Board, the Claim may be deferred to a future Hearing in order to provide Notice to the Claimant.

4. Deadline for Scheduling a Hearing on Claims.
 - a. Hearings are held at Meetings as provided by Section C, paragraph 6.
 - b. Unless the Claimant and all other parties to the Claim otherwise agree, the Local Board shall commence a Hearing on a Claim within ninety (90) days of its receipt of a Claim, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(2).
 - c. If the Local Board does not commence a Hearing on a Claim within ninety (90) days of its receipt of the Claim:
 - i. The Claimant shall notify the Administrator and Secretary by letter sent by certified mail that the Local Board has failed to convene a Hearing within ninety (90) days of the filing of a Claim.
 - ii. As provided by A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(2), the relief demanded by the Claimant is deemed granted and approved by the Local Board.
 - iii. As provided in A.R.S. § 38-893(H), the Board of Trustees may require a Rehearing within sixty (60) days after receiving the notice required by paragraph (4)(c)(i) of this Section. However, if the relief deemed granted and approved by the Local Board violates the Internal Revenue Code or threatens to jeopardize the Plan's status as a qualified plan under the Internal Revenue Code, no limitation period for the Board of Trustees to seek a Rehearing applies.
5. Issuance of Decision. When a Hearing is held within the deadlines set forth in paragraph 4 of this Section, the Secretary shall submit the information required by Section C(6)(f).
6. Finality of Decision. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893, any Decision that is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Plan and the Internal Revenue Code shall be final, conclusive and binding on the Claimant and the Plan, unless a timely application for a Rehearing is filed as provided in Section J, or an appeal is filed. However, the Board of Trustees may not implement and comply with any Decision that does not comply with the Internal Revenue Code or that threatens to jeopardize the Plan's status as a qualified plan under the Internal Revenue Code, and under such circumstances, no limitation period for the Board of Trustees to seek a Rehearing of a Decision applies. A final Decision may be appealed to the Maricopa County Superior Court for the State of Arizona within the periods specified in, and the manner provided by, Arizona law (*see* A.R.S. § 12-901, *et seq.*) and the rules adopted by the Maricopa County Superior and Appellate Courts of the State of Arizona.

F. Disability Benefit Applications

1. Disability Application. Upon presentation of a properly completed application for any of the disability pensions authorized by law, the Secretary will determine whether the Claimant has provided complete documentation supporting the Claim referenced in the application. If the information is incomplete, the Secretary shall request that the Claimant provide additional documentation and may assist the Claimant in identifying deficiencies or incomplete items in the application. The Secretary shall also obtain from the Employer any documentation contained in workers' compensation records, if any. In the event a Member whose Pre-Membership Physical revealed a pre-existing condition applies for an accidental, ordinary, or total and permanent disability pension, all such documentation

related to the Member's pre-existing condition will be presented to the Local Board. A confidential packet of medical information on the Claimant shall be prepared for distribution to Local Board members. When the Claimant's application is complete, the Claim shall be placed, as a separate item, on the agenda for a Meeting, pursuant to Section E.

2. Initial Hearing. At the initial Hearing on a Claim for disability benefits, the Local Board will determine whether the medical and other documentation submitted is sufficient for the Local Board to conclude that the statutory prerequisites are satisfied by the Claimant. If the statutory prerequisites are satisfied, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(D), the Local Board shall direct that a medical board be appointed to conduct an examination of the Claimant and to report to the Local Board the results of that examination. If the statutory prerequisites are not satisfied, the Local Board may deny the Claim based on a lack of evidence, either medical or otherwise, such as the Claimant's continued work status or the Claimant's performance of a reasonable range of duties. If the Local Board determines that a Member's disability resulted from a physical or mental condition or injury that existed or occurred prior to the Member's date of membership in the Plan, the Member shall not qualify for an accidental, ordinary, or total and permanent disability pension. In the alternative, the Local Board may continue the Hearing on the matter to a date and time when additional documentation requested by the Board is available.
3. Independent Medical Board. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893(D)(6), medical boards shall be composed of a designated physician or physicians working in a clinic other than the employer's regular employee or contractor. If required, the Local Board may employ other physicians to report on special cases. The medical board shall report the results of examinations made to the Local Board, and the Secretary shall preserve the report as a permanent record.
4. Mental Examinations. A Claim for a mental condition shall be referred to a medical board consisting of a doctor of medicine who is a psychiatrist or has a specialty in psychiatry.
5. Prompt Hearing. If a medical board is appointed, the Secretary shall reconvene the Hearing at the first feasible Meeting after the Local Board members' receipt of the medical board's report, unless the Claimant requests in writing otherwise.
6. Disability Findings. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-886(F) and 38-886.01(F), a finding of disability shall be based on medical evidence provided by the medical board appointed by the Local Board and shall disregard any other medical evidence or opinions.
7. Approval of Disability Claim. If a Claim for disability benefits is approved by the Local Board, the Secretary shall obtain Employer certification of the Claimant's employment termination date and indicate the Board's approval on proscribed Plan forms. If the Secretary cannot obtain certification of the termination of the Claimant's employment within forty-five (45) days after the Local Board's approval, the Claimant's application for disability benefits will be considered withdrawn. Until such time as the Claimant has terminated employment with his Employer, the Local Board shall not consider any further Claim by the Claimant for disability benefits.
8. Denial of Disability Claim. If a Claim for disability benefits is denied by the Local Board, and the Claimant is not present at the Meeting, the Secretary will notify the Claimant in

writing by certified mail of the Decision of the Board, the reasons for the Decision, and the Claimant's rights to a Rehearing.

G. Killed in the Line of Duty Death Survivor Benefit Applications

1. Application. Upon presentation of a properly completed Claim for Killed in the Line of Duty survivor benefit authorized by law, the Secretary will determine whether the Claimant has provided complete documentation supporting the Claim. If the information is incomplete, the Secretary shall request that the Claimant provide additional documentation and may assist the Claimant in identifying deficiencies or incomplete items in the application. The Secretary shall also obtain from the Employer any documentation associated with the Claim. A confidential packet of information on the Claim shall be prepared for distribution to Local Board members, if warranted. When the Claimant's application is complete, the Claim shall be placed, as a separate item, on the agenda for a Meeting, pursuant to Section E.
2. Initial Hearing. At the initial Hearing, the Local Board will determine whether the underlying facts, medical and other documentation submitted is sufficient for the Local Board to conclude that the statutory prerequisites outlined in A.R.S. 38-888(B) are satisfied by the Claimant. If the prerequisites provisions are not satisfied, the Local Board may deny the Claim based on a lack of evidence, either medical or otherwise. In the alternative, the Local Board may continue the Hearing on the matter to a date and time when any additional documentation requested by the Board is available.
3. Decision on Claim. Once a Decision has been rendered by the Local Board, the Secretary shall submit the Decision pursuant to Section C(6)(f). If a Claim is denied by the Local Board, and the Claimant is not present at the Meeting, the Secretary will notify the Claimant in writing by certified mail of the Decision of the Board, the reasons for the Decision, and the Claimant's rights to a Rehearing.

H. Reexamination of Disability Recipients

1. Accidental, Ordinary and Total and Permanent Disability Benefits Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-886 and §38-886.01.
 - a. At its discretion, the Local Board may require Members receiving accidental, ordinary or total and permanent disability benefits to undergo periodic medical examinations to determine whether they are still disabled and therefore, qualified for continued disability benefits. The Board's procedures for reevaluating disability benefits is established in the CORP Local Board for the Judiciary Guidelines for Periodic Reevaluation of Disability Benefits, incorporated by reference herein, and attached as Appendix B.

I. Request to Remain in the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan

1. Authority to Designate Positions. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-891(G), the Local Board may specify positions within the administrative office of the courts that require direct contact

with and primarily provide training or technical expertise to county probation, surveillance or juvenile detention officers as a designated position if the position is filled by an employee who is a member of the plan currently employed in a designated position as a probation, surveillance or juvenile detention officer and who has at least five (5) years of credited service under the plan.

2. An employee who fills a position outlined in paragraph 1 of this Section shall make a written request to the Local Board to specify the position as a designated position within ninety (90) days of accepting the position. On the employee leaving the position, the position reverts to a non-designated position.
3. A written request by the employee to the Local Board to specify the position as a designated position shall be placed on the Local Board Meeting agenda for review, verification and approval by the Local Board.

J. Rehearings

1. Application for Rehearing.
 - a. A Claimant requesting a Rehearing shall file an application in writing within sixty (60) days after the Claimant receives notification of the Initial Decision by certified mail, by attending the Meeting at which the Initial Decision is rendered, or by receiving benefits from the Plan pursuant to the Initial Decision, whichever occurs first.
 - b. If the Board of Trustees requests a Rehearing, it must be filed in writing within sixty (60) days after the Board of Trustees receives a copy of the Initial Decision by email or certified mail, unless the decision of the Local Board violates the Internal Revenue Code or threatens to jeopardize the Plan's status as a qualified plan under the Internal Revenue Code, in which case no time limit applies.
2. Rehearings Granted. The Local Board shall conduct a Rehearing of any matter upon proper and timely application by a Claimant or the Board of Trustees, pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-893(H).
3. Preparation of Preliminary Record. Upon receipt of a proper and timely application for Rehearing, the Secretary shall prepare a packet consisting of all documents and other tangible items of evidence made available to the Local Board with respect to the underlying issues. The Secretary may obtain a written transcript of any previous proceedings of the Local Board in connection with the matter, for inclusion in such packet. The Rehearing packet shall be made available to Local Board members and shall be provided to all Parties to the Rehearing. This packet of materials shall constitute the preliminary record for the Rehearing.
4. Scheduling of Rehearing. When the preliminary record is complete, the Secretary shall schedule the Rehearing for the next scheduled Meeting or for such other date and time as may be determined by the Local Board, but no later than ninety (90) days after receipt of either the Claimant's or the Board of Trustees' request for Rehearing. Rehearings are not subject to the time limitations set forth in Section E.

5. Local Board Action on Rehearing. At or after the conclusion of the Rehearing, the Local Board may vote to uphold, rescind or modify its Initial Decision.
6. Issuance of Decision on Rehearing. When a Rehearing is held, the Secretary shall forward the Decision on Rehearing, Minutes of Rehearing and other necessary communications, as provided in Section C(6)(f).
7. Finality. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-893, any Decision on Rehearing that is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Plan and the Internal Revenue Code shall be final, conclusive and binding on the Claimant and the Plan, unless a timely appeal is filed. However, the Board of Trustees may not implement and comply with any Decision on Rehearing that does not comply with the Internal Revenue Code or that threatens to jeopardize the Plan's status as a qualified plan under the Internal Revenue Code. A final Decision on Rehearing may be appealed to the Maricopa County Superior Court for the State of Arizona within the periods specified in, and the manner provided by Arizona law (*see* A.R.S. § 12-901, *et seq.*) and the rules adopted by the Maricopa County Superior and Appellate Courts of the State of Arizona.

K. General Provisions Applicable to All Hearings and Rehearings

1. Review of Medical Records. The Local Board shall review and discuss any confidential medical records in executive session only, unless the Claimant or Member waives the confidentiality requirement with respect to any confidential medical records by completing a confidentiality waiver.
2. Exclusion of Evidence. The Presiding Officer may preclude the presentation of argumentative, repetitious or irrelevant facts or questioning in any proceeding on a Claim.
3. Argument and Evidence. The Presiding Officer shall rule on all evidentiary or procedural objections. Each Party is entitled to make an opening statement. The Party with the burden of proof shall begin the presentation of evidence, unless the Parties otherwise agree or the Presiding Officer determines that another order would be more expeditious or appropriate and would result in no material prejudice. The Presiding Officer shall determine the order of witness examinations, which shall be such as will expedite the Hearing or Rehearing and insure the proceeding is fair. The Presiding Officer may, but is not required to, administer oaths to witnesses and each Party. Each Party is entitled to present a closing argument in the order determined by the Presiding Officer. Each Party is entitled to be represented by counsel, submit evidence, offer arguments, and cross examine witnesses.
4. Informal Proceedings. All Hearings and Rehearings shall be conducted in an informal manner and without adherence to the rules of procedure or evidence required in judicial proceedings. The manner of conducting the Hearing or Rehearing, rulings on evidentiary or procedural objections, and the failure to adhere to rules of procedure or evidence required in judicial proceedings shall not be grounds for reversing a Decision of the Local Board, provided substantial evidence supports such order or Decision.
5. Notice of the Truth of Widely-Known and Accepted Facts. The Presiding Officer may take notice of the truth of certain widely known and accepted facts, including generally recognized technical, statistical, actuarial or scientific facts within the Local Board's

specialized knowledge. Parties shall be notified, either before or during the Hearing or Rehearing, of any widely known and generally accepted facts noticed as true, including any staff memoranda or data. Parties shall be afforded an opportunity to contest any material so noticed. The Local Board's experience, technical competence and specialized knowledge may be utilized in its evaluation of all evidence. The Local Board shall be entitled to consider and rely on as true information furnished by the Employer, Administrator, the Local Board's independent legal counsel or the Plan's actuary.

6. Failure to Appear at Hearing. In the event a Claimant (and the Claimant's counsel, if any) fails to appear at a duly noticed Hearing or Rehearing, in its discretion, the Local Board may enter a Decision by default or vacate the Hearing or Rehearing. If a witness fails to appear at a duly noticed Hearing or Rehearing, in his discretion, the Presiding Officer may exclude the witness's testimony or reschedule the Hearing or Rehearing.
7. Limitation of Issues. All Hearings and Rehearings shall be limited to matters referenced in the Claim and any request for Rehearing filed by any Party.
8. Record of Proceedings. All Hearings and Rehearings shall be recorded by electronic means and at the Local Board's expense. A copy of the recorded Hearing or Rehearing will be provided to the Claimant and all other interested Parties upon request. Parties are responsible for obtaining their own transcription of a recorded Hearing or Rehearing, although a Local Board may provide such a transcription in its discretion. In addition to any electronic recording of the proceedings, the Local Board shall include all relevant written records as part of the official record of the Hearing or Rehearing.
9. Evidence on Claims. The Claimant and Administrator shall be afforded equal time to state their positions.
10. Subpoenas; Depositions. To facilitate the collection and presentation of evidence with respect to any matter before the Local Board, the Presiding Officer may authorize subpoenas and depositions of witnesses.
11. Consultation Among Members. The Presiding Officer may consult on the record with the other members of the Local Board. The Local Board may consult in executive session with the Local Board's legal counsel so long as all requirements of the Open Meeting Law are satisfied. The Local Board may also go into executive session for any lawful reason, including the need to preserve the confidentiality of medical information. However, all Decisions of the Local Board shall be made in open, public session of the Local Board.
12. Bifurcation of Issues/Hearing. In connection with any Claim, the Presiding Officer is empowered to bifurcate issues presented to the Local Board for resolution, or set multiple Hearings or Rehearings in a single case.
13. Submission of Evidence. The Claimant must submit to the Secretary within ten (10) working days of the Hearing or Rehearing any documents the Claimant wishes to introduce into the record, including medical reports and other written evidence. Documents received by the Secretary less than ten (10) working days before a Hearing or Rehearing may cause a delay in the Hearing or Rehearing and shall be allowed at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. Information and documents presented on the date of the Hearing or Rehearing will be reason for the Presiding Officer to call for a motion to continue the Hearing or Rehearing to a later date.

14. Public Participation. The Open Meeting Law governs public participation in Hearings and Rehearings.
15. No Rehearing on Remand. A Hearing before the Local Board on a matter remanded from a Superior Court is not subject to a Rehearing before the Local Board. However, the Local Board may consider new evidence or review items remanded by the Superior Court.

L. Review of Reemployment Determinations

1. Reemployment Determinations. At the next Meeting after the reemployment of a retired member, the Local Board shall review and determine if the retired member:
 - a. is reemployed by the employer from which the member retired in a designated position.
 - b. is reemployed before the time period established in A.R.S. § 38-884(N).
 - c. became an elected official.
2. Application of the Alternate Contribution Rate. The Local Board shall review the reemployment of retired members to determine whether the alternate contribution rate established in A.R.S. § 38-891.01 applies during the retired member's reemployment.
3. Submission of Determinations to the Plan. The Secretary shall submit all reemployment determinations to the Board of Trustees pursuant to Section (C)(6).

The undersigned Chair and Secretary of the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan Local Board for the Judiciary certify that the foregoing Procedures were duly adopted by the Board at a meeting held on the date specified below.

Chair

Secretary

Dated

Dated