

RETIREE ADVISOR

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Produced for retired members of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System

TCRS Board Member Spotlight: Michael Barker

TCRS wants to spotlight the men and women who represent you on the TCRS Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for the general administration and proper operation of the retirement plan. Michael Barker has served as the Retired Teacher Representative since 2004.



Michael Barker retired in 1990 with more than 30 years of combined service as both an educator and a State employee. He began teaching science at Humboldt High School in 1961, then served as the principal for Main Street Elementary School in Humboldt, TN. He finished his service with the Tennessee Department of Education.

Service in TCRS is a family affair for the Barkers. Mr. Barker's wife, Martha, was a high school math teacher who taught for 25 years, and also received retirement benefits from TCRS before her passing

six years ago. His son, daughter, and daughter-in-law are all members of TCRS. His son is currently a Deputy Superintendent for Shelby County Schools, and his daughter-in-law is a researcher at UT School of Pharmacy. Mr. Barker's daughter taught in both Shelby County and Metro Nashville Schools.

As a TCRS Board Trustee, Mr. Barker is a member of the Executive Committee and chairs the Audit Committee, an area tasked with reviewing the administrative and investment processes that protect the fund from risk. According to Mr. Barker, members of the Audit Committee "have a birds-eye view on the oversight of the program." He says, "I want to reassure retirees that there are good checks and balances in place that keep our fund healthy."

When asked what stands out to him from his 16 years of service to the Board of Trustees, Mr. Barker replied, "I have been around a long time and have seen a lot of things. I have been so impressed by the quality of the people that work in Treasury for the retirement program. They are excellent." He also stressed the importance of leadership, referring to Treasurer David H. Lillard, Jr., current TCRS Director Jamie Wayman, and former TCRS Director Jill Bachus, when saying, "They have led this excellent team, and have worked to advance the technology of the retirement system to bring us all into the 21st Century. It is reassuring and comforting to know we have the best possible people running our investments and our retirement program. They are super professional."

We want to thank Mr. Barker for his service to Tennessee and to the TCRS Board of Trustees. You can learn more about your TCRS Board of Trustees at Treasury.tn.gov > Retirement > TCRS Board of Trustees.



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2020 Direct Deposit Payment Schedule

Friday,
July 31

Monday,
August 31

Wednesday,
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Friday,
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Monday,
November 30

Wednesday,
December 30

Temporary employment guidelines for TCRS Retirees

A TCRS retiree cannot return to work with any TCRS-covered employer while continuing to receive their monthly retirement benefit with two exceptions: 120-day Temporary Employment and the Limited Reemployment of Retired Teachers.

Temporary employment allows TCRS retirees to return to work 120 days within a 12-month period, as long as they do not exceed certain salary restrictions. Higher Education employees can work 18 semester hours in a 12-month period. It is important to note that retirees are not eligible to accrue additional retirement benefits working under either the 120-day Temporary Employment or Limited provision.

Prior to returning to employment, visit the Forms & Guides section at RetireReadyTN.gov and complete the relevant form under "Return to work after retirement." The form will need to be signed by your employer who should send them to TCRS prior to the start of your employment. Unless you are retired on disability, you can always return to work for a private employer without restrictions.

Before accepting a position with a TCRS-covered employer, retirees should contact RetireReadyTN at (800) 922-7772 to determine how their TCRS retirement benefits may be impacted.

PerkSpot - New Discount Program



The State of Tennessee has rolled out a new discount program that TCRS Retirees can use! Introducing PerkSpot, a new, enhanced discount program portal for State of Tennessee employees and TCRS Retirees. PerkSpot offers exclusive discounts from more than 900 merchants and replaces the former discount program platform. We hope you enjoy the cost-saving and special benefit offerings that merchants have made available, just for you!

To get started, visit RetireReadyTN.gov> For Retirees and follow the directions to create an account. Once you are logged into PerkSpot, you can browse all discount offerings, and search by category of interest or by brands. Perkspot also features a Local Map so you can quickly see discounts to businesses near you.

The State of Tennessee Employee Discount Program is administered by the TN Department of Human Resources, which generously makes these discounts available to our retirees. If you have questions or need assistance with Perkspot, email cs@perkspot.com or call (866) 606-6057.

Contacting TCRS:

If you have questions regarding your retirement, you can reach the TCRS Customer Service Call Center at (800) 922-7772 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. CST.

For convenient, easy access to many retirement needs in one place, you can also visit **RetireReadyTN.gov.**

What do you want to see in the Retiree Advisor?



Tell us what you want to see in a future Retiree Advisor on Facebook at "**Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System,**" or email your ideas to Treasury.Communications@tn.gov.

You may also mail your ideas to:

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