

# 13th CHECK PROGRAM INFORMATIONAL GUIDELINES

\*(The following are excerpts from the City Ordinance for the 13th Check Program)\*

## Sec. 1.296. - Thirteenth Check Pension Supplement.

(1)

Authorized. A supplement to the pension benefit currently received by eligible retirants as defined in [Section 1.296\(2\)\(a\)](#) may occur annually in the form of a thirteenth pension check during the month of January. The issuance of a thirteenth check will be determined by funds available pursuant to [Section 1.296\(2\)\(b\)](#).

(2)

Definitions. The following words and phrases interpret the implementation and intent of this Section as an adjunct to [Section 1.233](#).

(a)

Eligibility. Eligibility is limited to retirants or surviving beneficiaries who receive a monthly benefit from the City of Grand Rapids Police and Fire Retirement System and who have been receiving a System allowance for five (5) or more years by reason of having been a member. The five-year eligibility requirement is based upon the number of calendar years of retirement calculated from the first day of January of the retirement year without regard to the actual retirement date. Upon retirant's death only the surviving designated beneficiary at time of retirement pursuant to [Section 1.247](#), who is otherwise eligible to receive a monthly pension benefit shall be eligible to continue receipt of this supplement benefit. Provided, however, that retirants terminating employment as shown in the following table, and their surviving beneficiaries pursuant to [Section 1.247](#), shall be included when computing payment amounts for thirteenth check distributions, and in lieu of a thirteenth check shall be eligible to receive an escalator increase under [Section 1.298](#).

<u>COVERED GROUP</u>	<u>TERMINATION DATE</u>
<u>Firefighters, except Fire Chief</u>	<u>On or after July 1, 2007</u>
<u>Police Officers, except Police Chief and Deputy Police Chief</u>	<u>On or after</u> <u>December 17, 2008</u>
<u>Police Command</u>	<u>On or after</u> <u>February 19, 2010</u>