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### **Survivor's Pension – Active Judges**

Applicable if judge had 5 (8 if hired after June 30, 2014) or more years of service. The surviving spouse of a judge hired prior to July 1, 2014 would receive 75% of the judge's vested pension until death. The surviving spouse of a judge hired after June 30, 2014 would receive the greater of 30% of final average salary or the accrued normal retirement pension under the 100% joint and survivor payment form. Pension is payable to deceased judge's minor and dependent children if there is no eligible surviving spouse.

### **Disability**

Applicable if judge has 5 (8 if hired after June 30, 2014) or more years of service and becomes incapacitated to perform duties of office. The amount of the disability pension is equal to the judge's accrued vested benefit.

### **Cost-of-Living Increases**

Effective July 1, 2014, there will be no COLA increases for 2014 and 2015. Starting July 1, 2016, annual 2% COLA increases will be subject to PERA's certification based on the Fund's current year and projected next year funded ratio being equal to or greater than 100%. At a minimum, a 2% COLA increase will be granted every third year. COLA increases are subject to the following eligibility periods:

- If member retires prior to July 1, 2014, COLA is payable after retirement has been in effect for at least 2 full calendar years.
- If member retires on or after July 1, 2014 but prior to July 1, 2015, COLA is payable after retirement has been in effect for at least 3 full calendar years.
- If member retires on or after July 1, 2015 but prior to July 1, 2016, COLA is payable after retirement has been in effect for at least 4 full calendar years.
- If member retires on or after July 1, 2016, COLA is payable after retirement has been in effect for at least 7 full calendar years.

If retired on account of disability or if at least age 65, the above waiting period is reduced to 1 full calendar year.

### **Judge's Contributions**

Members contribute 10.5% of salary.



## **Appendix C: Summary of Plan Provisions**

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### **Refund of Judge's Contributions**

If a judge leaves service or dies and no pension becomes payable, the accumulated contributions are refunded or paid to the designated beneficiary.

### **Public Payments**

Payroll based contributions: 15.0% of salary. Dollar Contributions: \$38.00 from each civil case docket fee paid in the district court (increased from \$27.25 effective June 19, 1987) plus \$25.00 from each civil case docket fee and \$10.00 from each civil action jury fee paid in the metropolitan courts.

### **Other Service**

PERA, MRA and ERA service may be combined with Judicial service for purposes of satisfying age and service requirements once a member has attained one month of Judicial service. When combining service, members may retire under the JRA after satisfying either the JRA or PERA age and service requirements for immediate benefits.