



Currently, wives and widows of police officers who die in the line of duty are not entitled to annuities if the marriage occurred less than one year before the police officers death. P.A. 95-0504 allows a wife or a widow of a Chicago policeman who dies in service, if the marriage lasted less than one year, to be considered for an annuity if the policeman dies in the performance of an act of duty. This consideration will be determined by an evidentiary hearing. If the Board of Trustees of the Chicago Police Pension Fund determines special circumstances exist regarding a widow's annuity, the Board may grant the award.

*Annuities for Widows of Officers who Withdraw or Die out of Service*

Currently, a wife or widow of a policeman who withdraws or dies out of service will not be entitled to an annuity if the marriage occurred less than one year prior to the policeman's death, and the widow was not his wife while he was in service. P.A. 95-0504 allows for the payment of a widow's annuity under such circumstances, subject to an evidentiary hearing. If the Board determines special circumstances exist regarding a widow's annuity, the Board may grant the award.

*Resumption of Annuities for Remarried Widows*

Currently, any annuity granted to a widow of a Chicago police officer shall be suspended when she remarries unless her husband's death was from an injury in the performance of an act of duty; or she remarries after reaching age 60. P.A. 95-0504, allows any widow's annuity that was previously terminated or suspended as a result of remarriage to be resumed as of the date of application. The resumption shall not be retroactive and applies regardless of whether or not the deceased policeman was in service on or after the effective date of this Act.

*Age Limitations Eliminated for Disabled Dependents*

Currently, a child's annuity paid from the Chicago Police Pension Fund shall not be reduced or terminated by reason of the child having reached 18 years of age if he or she is then dependant on his or her parents due to a physical or mental disability. Under current law, "disability" means inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. For purposes of determining eligibility for children's annuities, P.A. 95-0504 eliminates age limitations placed on children who are so physically or mentally handicapped that they are unable to support themselves. The first payment shall be payable one month after the date upon which the annuity accrues.

*Transfer of Service Credit from Chicago Municipal to IMRF*

P.A. 95-0504 allows any eligible member who is a sheriff's law enforcement employee under IMRF (Article 7) to transfer an unlimited amount of service credit from the Chicago Municipal Fund to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund until February 28, 2008 (six months after the effective date). Upon application, the credits and creditable service shall be transferred to IMRF and include payments by the Chicago Municipal Fund to IMRF, consisting of: (1) the amounts accumulated to the credit of the applicant of the fund, including interest, on the books of the fund on the date of transfer; (2) corresponding employer credits computed and credit for that service.

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