

# MEMORANDUM #26, 2013

Commonwealth of Massachusetts | Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission  
Five Middlesex Avenue, Suite 304, Somerville, MA 02145  
Ph 617 666 4446 | Fax 617 628 4002 | TTY 617 591 8917 | [www.mass.gov/perac](http://www.mass.gov/perac)

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Joseph E. Connarton, *Executive Director*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Leaders

FROM: Joseph E. Connarton, Executive Director

RE: 2013 Pension Fraud Prevention Poster Campaign

DATE: October 9, 2013

In accordance with the requirements of Chapter 427, § 10 of the Acts of 1996, the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) maintains a toll-free hot line for the reporting of fraudulent pension claims and payments.

**The hot line phone number is 1-800-445-3266. All messages are kept confidential.**

Since 1998, PERAC has promoted the hot line through poster campaigns built around various slogans: “It Adds Up”; “FRAUD, It is a Big Deal”; “For All of Those Who Thought Pension Fraud Was an Invisible Crime”; “I’m Not Hurting Anyone”; “This Is A Losing Hand”; and “Pension Fraud Is Stealing.”

This year’s campaign is “Pension Fraud! Let’s Cut it Out!” The poster prominently features our hotline as well as our email address for reporting any suspected fraud. We first introduced the email address, [PensionFraud@per.state.ma.us](mailto:PensionFraud@per.state.ma.us) two years ago and it has remained a popular means of communication for reporting suspected fraud.

We produced a brochure that informs readers about the PERAC Fraud Prevention Unit and provides details about various types of pension fraud. We also created a “Referral Report of Potential Fraud” that can be used by anyone who wishes to make a written report of suspected pension fraud. We have enclosed a poster, brochure, and referral form for your review.

PERAC has distributed copies of the posters, brochures, and referral forms to every Massachusetts public retirement board, all city and town clerks, the Attorney General of Massachusetts, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Department of Revenue, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, the Bureau of Special Investigations, the Department of Transitional Assistance, and the Department of Industrial Accidents. We have asked that these materials be displayed in locations that provide maximum visibility.

We believe that our poster campaign is a reasonable response to the mandates of Chapter 427. PERAC has found that pension fraud is not of the rampant nature suggested in newspaper articles, but instead that the vast majority of public retirees are honorable individuals whose public service deserves the full measure of the Commonwealth’s respect and admiration.

For any questions about the PERAC Pension Fraud Unit and this promotional campaign, please contact Michael

DeVito, Director of Strategic Planning, Management, and Public Affairs, at 617-666-4446, extension 971 or [MJDeVito@per.state.ma.us](mailto:MJDeVito@per.state.ma.us) .