



Published by the Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association www.cccera.org

## **RETIREE INCOME TAX REMINDERS for 2013 FILING YEAR**

As we enter the 2013 tax filing season, CCCERA wants to remind retirees about their right to increase, decrease, start, or stop federal and/or state income tax withholding from their monthly retirement benefit. These changes can be made at any time during the year.

Changes can be made any time by filing the form with CCCERA. Changes received before the 20th of each month will be effective the following month.

You are not required to have federal tax withheld from your monthly payments; however, if you choose to exempt yourself from withholding, you must pay any required taxes through other sources, such as quarterly estimates and deposits.

If your current withholding arrangements are appropriate, they will remain in effect. No action is required as of this date.

If your withholding and estimated tax payments do not adequately meet your tax liabilities, penalties under the estimated tax rules may apply.

If you would like to change your withholding amounts, the *Federal Withholding Certificate for Pension Payments/State of California Withholding Certificate for Pension or Annuity Payments* form can be mailed to you from our office, picked up in person, or printed from our website, *www.cccera.org*.

## This forms allows you to:

•Discontinue federal/state income tax withholding from your monthly retirement allowance.

- •Choose to withhold federal/state income tax based on:
  - 1) a set number of allowances,
  - 2) a specific marital status,

3) a specific amount withheld from your monthly pension payment (state filing only). There is also an option to withhold an additional amount from each monthly pension payment, if you choose.

## What About State Taxes?

Monthly payments made to CCCERA retirees living in California are subject to California income tax. CCCERA payments to retirees living outside California <u>may</u> not be subject to California income tax, but benefits may be subject to other state taxes. It is a good idea to check with a tax professional or State Department of Revenue for current information on your individual tax situation. CCCERA cannot give personal tax advice to members.



CCCERA office hours are 8 a.m. - Noon, 12:30 p.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Counselors are available by phone 9 a.m. - Noon, 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

After business hours, voicemail is available to take your messages 24 hours a day at 925.521.3960. PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID OAKLAND, CA PERMIT # 3729

## **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER DATES FOR 2014**

- **Reliable and well tested.**
- YOUR CHECK IS NEVER LOST IN THE MAIL.
- EFT AUTOMATICALLY DEPOSITS YOUR FUNDS INTO YOUR ACCOUNT.

Find out why thousands of your fellow retirees use Electronic Funds Transfer to receive their monthly pension benefit. There are no security risks, since EFT uses the same personal information your bank already has.

Call the Retirement Office at 925.521.3960 for more information. You can request the form you need to sign up for EFT. You can also go to our website and download the form, plus more information about Electronic Funds Transfer. Why not give it a try?

On the last working day of the month, CCCERA will electronically deposit your check into the financial institution of your choice. Keep in mind your bank may not post these funds *until the next banking day.* 



To verify when your bank posts funds to your account, contact your bank to determine when the funds are available.