

Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants

Sandy Drew, Contact Person

608-833-5811 or 608-286-8895

sdrew24@tds.net

(Madison) The Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants (WCOA) will hold its annual conference on Friday, May 19, 2017, at the American Family Center, Bldg. A, 6000 American Family Parkway, Madison. Four outstanding speakers will address the group and provide up-to-date information about issues of high importance to retirees – pensions, investments, Social Security, Medicare and health insurance.

The WCOA is composed of statewide organizations that represent retired public employees. Maintaining the health and financial security of the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) is the organization's primary purpose. The conference gives former public employees who are now retired the opportunity to hear from representatives of ETF and SWIB – the two agencies that administer WRS benefits and invest the assets – about the health and status of their pension system. In addition, each year attendees hear from other speakers on a variety of topics of particular concern to seniors.

Speaking this year are Robert Conlin, Secretary of the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF), and Michael Williamson, Executive Director of the State of WI Investment Board (SWIB). They will provide updates on the Wisconsin Retirement System and how the assets in the fund are invested.

In addition, attendees will hear from Kevin McKinley and Lisa Lamkins. McKinley is a financial advisor/planner and principal of McKinley Money, LLC. Many Wisconsinites know him for the Wisconsin Public Radio program "On Your Money" that he does each Tuesday morning with Joy Cardin. Lamkins is advocacy director for AARP – WI and advocates primarily on federal issues critical to AARP members. Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid are her primary areas of expertise. McKinley will talk on financial planning steps that retirees should take, and Lamkins will update attendees on what is happening in Washington that will affect their retirement and health care security.

The conference is open to all retired public employees and their beneficiaries and will begin at 9:00 am and end by 3:15 pm. Registrations must be made no later than Friday, May 12. The cost to attend the conference is \$25, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. All checks for registration should be written to WCOA and submitted to the WCOA Treasurer, 5704 West Beloit Road, West Allis WI 53214-5318.

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