

**THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY  
FIRE SERVICE  
RETIREMENT PLAN**

**ACTUARIAL VALUATION  
AS OF  
JANUARY 1, 2009**

Bolton Partners, Inc.  
575 South Charles Street  
Suite 500  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

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# BOLTON PARTNERS, INC.

April 30, 2009

**PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL**

Andrea Fulton  
Personnel Officer  
Anne Arundel County Government  
P.O. Box 6675  
Annapolis, MD 21401

*Re: Fire Service Retirement Plan Valuation*

Dear Andrea:

The following report sets forth the actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2009 of the Anne Arundel County Fire Service Retirement Plan, for the plan year beginning on that date. The valuation is based on participant data as submitted by the personnel department of Anne Arundel County, Aetna and CIGNA and unaudited asset data submitted by the County.

## **INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE**

The market value of plan assets as of December 31, 2008 was \$293,116,349. The average investment return for the fund on a market basis for the year ended December 31, 2008 was (29.5%) and 0.5% on an actuarial basis.

The plan utilizes an actuarial averaging method to smooth out swings in investment performance and thus in asset values from year to year. Under the method, investment gains or losses above or below the 8% actuarial assumption are phased in over a five year period. As of December 31, 2008, the actuarial value of assets was \$390,551,359. Details of the development of the actuarial value of assets are set forth later in this report.

## **PRINCIPAL RESULTS**

The principal purpose of the valuation is to set forth the County's contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. In addition, the report sets forth the information on the plan for the County's financial statements and for the plan's own financial statements.

**Bolton Partners, Inc.**

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*Actuarial, Benefit and Investment Consultants*

The total recommended employer contribution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 increased from \$11,185,312 to \$14,217,007. This is in addition to employee contributions of 5% of pay for the Fire Department. The increase can be broken down to the following material factors:

- On an actuarial basis the investment return was 0.5% and generated an investment loss. On a market value basis the return was (29.5%). The difference is a deferred loss. The amount of the deferred gain decreased from \$29.7 million to (\$97.4) million.
- The number of active members and amount of covered payroll increased materially.
- Salary increases were above the assumption.

The above material factors had the following effect on the County's contribution (as a percentage of payroll) since last year's valuation.

January 1, 2008 valuation	25.5%
Investment Loss	3.5%
Pay Increases	0.5%
New Entrants/Change in Normal Cost	0.4%
COLA	0.0%
Demographics and Other Changes	(0.8%)
January 1, 2009 valuation	29.1%

The overall funded ratio for the plan decreased from 95.7% to 89.5%.

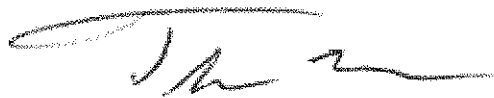
The ratio of the Actuarial Value of Assets to the Market Value of Assets is relatively high at 133%. This is a reflection of the severe market losses since the prior valuation. These losses will be fully phased in over the next four valuations. This means the County should expect increases from FY11 through FY14. To have a rough idea of the size of the increase, had the current valuation's contribution amount been based on the Market Value, the \$14,217,007 amount would be \$20,297,672. This does not factor in additional investment losses after January 1, 2009.

Since 2007 there has been an actuarial standard of practice covering reasonable asset smoothing methods. We believe that the five year smoothing method meets those standards even with a ratio of 133%. Some plan use a more conservative method which limits the ratio of the Actuarial Value of Assets to the Market Value to 120%. A very few others use a more aggressive approach and smooth losses over ten years. Given the unusual nature of these market losses, we expect many plans to be looking to switch to a ten year smoothing period.

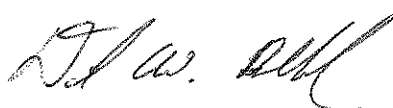
The balance of this report sets forth details of changes in participation in the plan and the results of the valuation. A statement of funding progress under GASB 25 is also included.

Sincerely,

**BOLTON PARTNERS, INC.**



Thomas B. Lowman, FSA



David W. Ballard, CEBS

TBL/DWB/tlc

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## **Trust Fund Asset Statement**

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Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
Fire Service Retirement Plan

**TRUST FUND ASSET STATEMENT FOR  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

Original Market Value 1/1/2008	\$424,542,389
Audit Adjustment	\$ 1
Market Value 1/1/2008	\$424,542,390
Receipts:	
Employer Contributions	\$ 11,190,446
Employee Contributions	2,016,860
Interest and Dividends	8,924,541
Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	(132,406,486)
Other	<u>825,440</u>
Total Receipts:	(\$109,449,199)
Disbursements:	
Benefit Payments	\$ 21,062,023
Administrative Expenses	380,372
Investment Expenses	<u>1,636,123</u>
Total Disbursements	\$ 23,078,517
Net Increase/(Decrease)	(\$132,527,716)
Preliminary Ending Value	\$292,014,674
Contribution Receivable	\$ 1,101,675
Ending Value 12/31/2008	\$293,116,349

(Note: There may be some dollar rounding differences.)

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**Development of Actuarial  
Value of Assets**

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Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
 Fire Service Retirement Plan

**ACTUARIAL VALUE OF ASSETS**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
<b>1. Actuarial Value of Assets Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$368,413,752</b>	<b>\$395,884,441</b>
2. Contributions	12,797,543	13,207,306
3. Benefit Payments	19,587,685	21,062,023
4. Administrative Expenses	463,040	380,372
5. Expected 8% Return	29,182,973	31,341,352
<b>6. Expected Asset Value (1. + 2. - 3. - 4. + 5.)</b>	<b>\$390,343,543</b>	<b>\$418,990,704</b>
7. Market Value End of Year	\$424,542,389	\$292,014,674
8. Prior Deferred Gain/(Loss)	\$ 11,922,762	\$ 20,729,074
<b>9. Asset Gain/(Loss) (7. - 8. - 6.)</b>	<b>\$ 22,276,085</b>	<b>(\$147,705,104)</b>
10. 80% of 2007 Gain/(Loss) of \$22,276,085	\$ 17,820,868	
11. 60% of 2006 Gain/(Loss) of \$19,271,816	11,563,090	
12. 40% of 2005 Gain/(Loss) of (\$1,726,516)	(690,606)	
13. 20% of 2004 Gain/(Loss) of \$5,251,392	1,050,278	
<b>14. Actuarial Value of Assets 1/1/2008</b>	<b>\$394,798,759</b>	
15. Contribution Receivable	\$1,085,681	
16. Audit Adjustment	0	
<b>17. Final Actuarial Value of Assets</b>	<b>\$395,884,441</b>	
18. 80% of 2008 Gain/(Loss) of (\$147,705,104)		(\$118,164,084)
19. 60% of 2007 Gain/(Loss) of \$22,276,085		13,365,651
20. 40% of 2006 Gain/(Loss) of \$19,271,816		7,708,726
21. 20% of 2005 Gain/(Loss) of (\$1,726,516)		(345,303)
<b>22. Actuarial Value of Assets 1/1/2009</b>		<b>\$389,449,684</b>
23. Contribution Receivable		\$ 1,101,675
24. Audit Adjustment		0
<b>25. Final Actuarial Value of Assets</b>		<b>\$390,551,359</b>
Rate of Return on Actuarial Value of Assets	9.2%	0.5%

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## **Participant Schedules**

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**PARTICIPANT SUMMARY**

	<u>Inactive Participants</u>				
	<u>Active Non-Drop Participants</u>	<u>Active DROP</u>	<u>With Deferred Benefits</u>	<u>Receiving Benefits</u>	<u>Total</u>
Participants as of January 1, 2008	709	61	0	364	1,134
Retired	(6)	(30)	0	36	0
DROP	(5)	5	0	0	0
Terminated	(14)	0	0	0	(14)
Disabled	0	0	0	0	0
Deceased/Payments Ceased	0	0	0	(4)	(4)
Payment to Beneficiary	0	0	0	1	1
QDRO Put in Pay	0	0	0	5	5
Rehired	8	0	0	0	8
Transfers	2	0	0	0	2
New Hires	116	0	0	0	116
Data Adjustment	(1)	0	0	3	2
Net Change	100	(25)	0	41	116
Participants as of January 1, 2009	809	36	0	405	1,250

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**Service - Age Distribution**

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Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
 Fire Service Retirement Plan

**AGE, SERVICE AND AVERAGE SALARY DISTRIBUTION**

Age as of 1/1/2009	Under 1	01-04	05-09	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 +	Total
Under 25	55 36,303	64 41,026	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	119 38,843
25-29	35 36,073	80 42,217	12 50,773	3 54,156	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	130 41,628
30-34	15 36,554	68 43,356	25 52,478	10 60,179	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	118 45,850
35-39	8 36,073	44 43,815	20 52,029	42 64,983	33 78,272	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	147 58,294
40-44	3 37,275	23 45,052	9 54,322	22 65,276	50 78,017	32 82,549	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	139 69,176
45-49	0 0	4 42,828	2 52,798	8 64,401	27 78,287	43 79,689	10 82,734	0 0	0 0	0 0	94 76,168
50-54	0 0	1 41,363	0 0	3 64,299	3 79,923	20 81,521	7 92,478	13 95,288	0 0	0 0	47 84,905
55-59	0 0	0 0	1 56,260	1 62,019	3 78,588	3 74,132	2 87,878	3 87,163	2 92,655	0 0	15 79,933
60-64	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
65-69	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
70 & Up	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Total	116 36,275	284 42,704	69 52,356	89 64,042	116 78,216	98 80,827	19 86,865	16 93,765	2 92,655	0 0	809 56,834

Average Age: 36.13

Average Service: 9.54

Average Salary: \$56,834

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## **Actuarial Costs**

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Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
Fire Service Retirement Plan

**ACTUARIAL COSTS**

	<u>As of</u> <u>01/01/2008</u>	<u>As of</u> <u>01/01/2009</u>
Participants		
Active excluding DROP	709	809
Active DROP	61	36
Retirees and Beneficiaries	<u>364</u>	<u>405</u>
Total	1,134	1,250
Active Payroll (Rate at January 1 <sup>st</sup> )	\$ 43,941,526	\$ 48,824,352
1. Actuarial Liability		
Active Participants	\$214,342,868	\$213,581,912
Participants Receiving Benefits	<u>199,472,219</u>	<u>222,938,946</u>
Total	\$413,815,087	\$436,520,858
2. Actuarial Value of Assets	\$395,884,441	\$390,551,359
3. Unfunded Actuarial Liability (1-2)	\$ 17,930,646	\$ 45,969,499
4. County's Normal Cost	\$ 8,815,826	\$ 9,991,997
5. Amortization Payment	\$ 1,104,944	\$ 2,749,898
6. Estimated Expenses	\$ 436,000	\$ 422,000
7. Total Recommended Contributions as of January 1 <sup>st</sup> (4 + 5 + 6)	\$ 10,356,770	\$ 13,163,895
8. Total Recommended Contribution as of December 31 <sup>st</sup> (7 x 1.08)	\$ 11,185,312	\$ 14,217,007
9. Contribution as a % of total payroll	25.45%	29.12%

**UNFUNDED LIABILITY AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE**

<u>Charges</u>	<u>Amortization Period</u>			<u>Balances</u>		<u>2009 Payment</u>
	<u>Date Created</u>	<u>Initial Years</u>	<u>Years Left</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	
Unfunded Accrued Liability	01/01/2004	30	25	\$15,137,045	\$16,328,909	\$ 1,038,856
Actuarial Loss	01/01/2006	30	27	\$ 1,910,765	\$ 2,006,893	\$ 122,417
Actuarial Loss	01/01/2008	30	29	\$ 2,970,298	\$ 3,022,553	\$ 177,645
Actuarial Loss	01/01/2009	30	30	\$27,797,740	\$27,797,740	\$ 1,606,282
 <u>Credits</u>						
Actuarial Gain	01/01/2005	30	26	\$ 2,021,367	\$ 2,153,043	\$ 134,035
Actuarial Gain	01/01/2007	30	28	\$ 471,511	\$ 487,734	\$ 29,187
Assumption Change	01/01/2008	30	29	\$ 536,383	\$ 545,819	\$ 32,080
Net Total					\$45,969,499	\$2,749,898

Note: Bases are amortized as an equal percent of payroll each year. Total payroll is assumed to increase 3.5% annually.



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## **Assumptions and Methods**

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### ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

Funding Method:

Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Cost Method. The contribution equals the sum of the normal cost and the amount necessary to amortize the frozen unfunded actuarial liabilities over a period of years. Amortization payments increase 3.5% (costs are also shown using the Projected Unit Credit Method).

Asset Method:

Asset smoothing method. Spreading the investment gains or losses in excess of the assumed return over a 5-year period. Actuarial Value of Assets recognizes adjustments resulting from an audit.

Interest:

8% compounded annually.

COLA Increases:

Benefits accrued before Bill 88-96 are assumed to increase by 3.5% of the current benefit each year from retirement.

Benefits accrued after Bill 88-96 are assumed to increase by 2.1% of the current benefit each year from retirement.

Salary Increases:

The following graded schedule is used:

<u>Attained Age</u>	<u>% Increase at Attained Age</u>
20	7.0%
25	6.5%
30	6.0%
35	5.5%
40	5.0%
45	4.5%
50	4.5%

Mortality:

*Healthy:* RP-2000 Blue Collar Mortality table projected to 2008 (by Male Scale AA).

*Disabled:* RP-2000 Blue Collar Mortality table projected to 2008 (by Male Scale AA), set forward five years.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS**

*(continued)*

Disability:

Sample rates are:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Rate</u>
30	0.2448%
35	0.3621%
40	0.7472%
45	1.2495%
50	1.8386%
55	0.0000%

75% of disablement is assumed to be duty-related.

Turnover:

Sample rates are:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Rate</u>
20	5.1750%
25	4.0140%
30	2.6172%
35	1.7154%
40	1.1408%
45	0.6344%
50	0.0000%

Retirement<sup>1</sup>:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sample Rates</u>						
	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>34</u>
40	7.50%	10.00%	18.33%	10%	50%	50%	100%
45	7.50%	10.00%	18.33%	10%	50%	50%	100%
50	18.00%	20.00%	58.33%	50%	50%	50%	100%
55	50.00%	50.00%	50.00%	50%	50%	50%	100%
59	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>1</sup> Reflected "20 and out" provision

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS**

*(continued)*

DROP load: To reflect the cost of the more valuable benefits provided from the deferred retirement option program the following loads were applied:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sample Load Rates</u>			
	<u>23</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>35</u>
44	0.4%	1.4%	2.3%	12.0%
50	2.0%	3.7%	4.5%	14.6%
55	2.7%	4.6%	5.4%	15.6%
60	3.2%	5.3%	6.1%	16.4%

Disability Leave: Service credit for benefit formula purposes is increased by 1.75% to account for disability leave which is converted to service credit at retirement.

Military Service: Active liabilities (which depend on credit service) are loaded by 3.25% to account for future crediting of military service.

Other Methods and Assumptions: Administrative Expenses are \$422,000 for FY2010 and \$436,000 for FY2009 (average of actual expenses for the two years preceding the valuation date).

Marriage: It is assumed that 85% of employees who die are married and males are four years older than their spouses.

Death: 100% of deaths are assumed to be non-duty-related.

Valuation Procedures: Generally, the plan provides a 100% survivor benefit to the spouse at the time of the retiree's death. This allows for post retirement marriages. We have valued the forms of payment originally coded in the data or based this on marital status at time of retirement (generally a 100% survivor benefit but not always). Starting with the 2008 valuation, all new retirements are valued with a 100% Joint and Survivor form of payment.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS**

*(continued)*

We suggest monitoring this form of payment to see if this reasonably models the combination of single retirees and future remarriages.

CIGNA Benefits:

Our calculations reflect that some benefits have already been purchased.

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## **Plan Provisions**

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## PLAN PROVISIONS

<u>Normal Retirement:</u>	20 years of service <sup>2</sup> or age 50 with 5 years of service.
<u>Normal Form of Benefit:</u>	For single participants, monthly life annuities with payments guaranteed for 5 years.  For married participants, unreduced 100% Joint & Survivor Annuity with payments guaranteed for 5 years.
<u>Cost of Living Increase</u> <u>(for benefits accrued as of 1/31/97):</u>	Retiree benefits are adjusted each year. The revised benefit amount is the lesser of:  a. Base benefit multiplied by ratio of current 12 month average CPI to 12 month average CPI at retirement. b. Prior year benefit increased by 4%.
<u>Cost of Living Increase</u> <u>(for benefits accrued after 1/31/97):</u>	Retiree benefits are adjusted each year. The revised benefit amount is the lesser of:  a. Prior year benefit multiplied by 60% of the increase in the current March CPI from March CPI for prior year, or b. Prior year benefit increased by 2.5%.
<u>Employee Contributions:</u>	5% of pay rate.
<u>Compensation:</u>	Regular annual rate of pay, exclusive of extra compensation of any kind such as overtime pay, bonuses, and commissions.
<u>Final Earnings:</u>	The average of the highest 3 years of the last 5 years annual basic pay.
<u>Benefit Formula:</u>	2 ½% of final earnings for each year of service up to 20 years plus 2% of final earnings for each year of service after 20 years (maximum 70% plus 2% times unused disability credit and pre-employment military service credit)

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<sup>2</sup> Effective 7/1/2002

**PLAN PROVISIONS**

*(continued)*

<u>Termination Prior to Retirement:</u>	Return of employee contributions with 3% interest.
<u>Disability:</u>	Must be totally and permanently disabled (except as the result of activities specified in the County code) regardless of length of service.
<i>Line of Duty Disability:</i>	The greater of the accrued benefit or 66 2/3% of final earnings, payable immediately, unreduced.
<i>Non-Line of Duty Disability:</i>	The greater of the accrued benefit or 20% of final earnings, payable immediately, unreduced.
<u>Pre-Retirement Spouse's Benefit:</u>	
<i>Line of Duty Death Benefit:</i>	Greater of accrued benefit or 66 2/3% of final earnings.
<i>Non-Line of Duty Death Benefit:</i>	Accrued benefit.
<u>Other Pre-Retirement Death Benefits:</u>	Return of employee contributions with 3% interest.
<u>Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP):</u>	Allows accumulation of pension after 20 years of County service. DROP period must be between 3 and 5 years.



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## **Summary of Legislative Changes**

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**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGES**

County Council Bill No. 48-89:

Effective 9/13/89.

The previously combined Police and Fire plan was separated into distinct plans for each group.

The reduction for retirement prior to age 50 was changed to 0.2% per month from 0.3% per month.

County Council Bill No. 34-92:

Effective 6/1/92 through 8/31/92.

Participants over age 50 or with at least 20 years of service could elect to retire with an additional pension equal to 1/12 of 2.5% of final earnings for the first 20 years of service, plus 1/12 of 2% of final earnings for each additional year of service. The additional amount could be taken as a pension increase, a lump sum, or as a temporary supplement to age 62. Appropriate actuarial adjustments apply.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGES**

*(continued)*

State House Bill No. 687:

Effective 7/1/90.

County employees were given the opportunity to apply for credit under the County's plan for previous service with the State of Maryland (or a political subdivision of the State).

County Council Bill 88-96:

Effective 12/4/96.

The previous method of calculating cost of living increases will only apply to benefits accrued as of 1/31/97. The cost of living increase for future benefits is a compound increase equal to 60% of the annual change in the CPI, not to exceed 2.5%.

Employees hired, or rehired, on or after 12/4/96 will be Tier Two employees and will have different benefits than current employees.

Recodification:

Effective 2/25/2002.

Allows a benefit based on disability leave service and pre-plan military service to be paid over the 70% cap. Normal Retirement was changed to the earlier of 20 years of service or age 50 with 5 years of service. Elimination of Tier 2 benefits. Implemented a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), a voluntary program that provides an alternative way to earn and receive retirement benefits.

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**Statement No. 25 of the GASB**

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**STATEMENT NO. 25 OF THE  
GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD**

Schedules of Funding Progress

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b - a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)	Funded Ratio (a/b)	Covered Payroll (c)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b - a)/c)
01/01/1997	\$149,030,187	\$33,562,970	\$182,593,157	81.6%	\$22,760,946	113.1%
01/01/1998	\$166,272,032	\$28,978,353	\$195,250,385	85.2%	\$24,008,491	123.1%
01/01/1999	\$185,328,626	\$29,363,810	\$214,692,436	86.3%	\$24,874,704	113.1%
01/01/2000	\$207,721,341	\$29,712,456	\$237,433,797	87.5%	\$25,551,279	108.9%
01/01/2001	\$225,133,219	\$39,498,937	\$264,632,156	85.1%	\$27,373,670	144.3%
01/01/2002	\$241,162,428	\$39,924,293	\$281,086,721	85.8%	\$30,548,866	130.7%
01/01/2003	\$256,190,269	\$40,287,968	\$296,478,237	86.4%	\$32,000,686	125.9%
01/01/2004	\$286,763,188	\$15,137,045	\$301,900,234	95.0%	\$31,463,220	48.1%
01/01/2005	\$313,478,279	\$13,381,977	\$326,860,256	95.9%	\$34,871,614	38.4%
01/01/2006	\$340,274,675	\$15,511,721	\$355,786,396	95.6%	\$38,592,322	40.2%
01/01/2007	\$368,413,752	\$15,280,517	\$383,694,268	96.0%	\$43,527,351	35.1%
01/01/2008 <sup>1</sup>	\$395,884,441	\$18,467,029	\$414,351,470	95.5%	\$43,941,526	42.0%
01/01/2008 <sup>2</sup>	\$395,884,441	\$17,930,646	\$413,815,087	95.7%	\$43,941,526	40.8%
01/01/2009	\$390,551,359	\$45,969,499	\$436,520,858	89.5%	\$48,824,352	94.2%

Schedules of County's Contributions

<i>Year Ended December 31</i>	<i>Annual Required Contribution</i>	<i>Actual Contribution</i>	<i>Percentage Contributed</i>
2008	\$11,189,718	\$11,189,712 <sup>3</sup>	100.0%

<sup>1</sup> Prior to Assumption Changes

<sup>2</sup> After Assumption Changes

<sup>3</sup> On an accrual basis. Subject to verification.

**STATEMENT NO. 25 OF THE**  
**GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD**  
*(continued)*

The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuations at the dates indicated. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation follows.

Actuarial cost method	Projected Unit Credit
Amortization method	Level percent of pay
Remaining amortization period	Remaining Amortization periods range from 25 to 30 years with an average of 28 years.
Asset valuation method	5-year smoothed market
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	8.0%
Projected salary increases	Varies by age
Post Retirement Cost-of-living adjustments	3.5% for pre 2/97 accruals 2.1% for post 2/97 accruals