



August 18, 2025

Dear Members,

Austin Firefighters Retirement Fund (AFRF) **will be accepting candidate nominations for two positions** on the AFRF Board of Trustees for the 2026 calendar year. Of these two elected trustee positions, one will be designated as an **active member** seat and the other as a **retired member** seat.

Effective January 1, 2026, the AFRF Board will expand from 5 members to 7 members, adding one additional member position. In accordance with the new legislation, the membership must elect two trustees to serve for the 2026 calendar year. Pursuant to action taken by the Board at its July 2025 Board meeting, the Board has proposed that one of such positions be designated as an active member seat and the other designated as a retired member seat.

To provide clarity with the newly expanded board, the Board of Trustees has assigned place numbers to identify each of the seven seats. Place 5 and Place 6 will be designated for these member positions, respectively. Pursuant to the new law, the individual who receives the highest number of votes in the general election (excluding runoffs) shall serve a 4-year term, ending on December 31, 2029, and the individual receiving the second highest number of votes in the general election (excluding runoffs) shall serve a 3-year term, ending on December 31, 2028. Future elections will be for a single trustee position with a 4-year term.

Trustee elections are open to both active and retired firefighters. Both active and retired firefighters can nominate and vote for both positions.

The upcoming nominations and election periods are scheduled as follows:

Nominations: September 1 through September 15, 2025

Nominations for Place 5 (active member) and Place 6 (retired member) trustee positions can be submitted by **email** at Staff@AFRFund.org, by **phone** at 512-454-9567, or by **mail** or **in-person** at the pension office at the address below.

The nominations deadline is 5pm CT on September 15, 2025. Nominations received by the Fund after the deadline will not be accepted.

For nominees: The Board requests a biography for each candidate who is nominated. The biography, which is recommended but not mandatory, must not exceed three hundred (300) words in length with strict adherence. The biographies will be included with each ballot to inform members about the candidates. Please provide any biographies to the pension office **by September 19, 2025**.

Elections: October 17 through November 6, 2025

For both active and retired firefighters, ballots are scheduled for distribution by **USPS first-class mail** to the eligible voter's home address on record during the second week of October. The ballots can be **returned using the prepaid business reply envelope** provided within the ballot package addressed to the third-party election official, YesElections. The return envelopes with completed paper ballots must be **postmarked by November 6, 2025** and received by November 13, 2025.

Members will also have the option to **vote online**. The printed mail ballot materials will include the **online voting website URL** as well as **individual log-in credentials**. An email will be sent on the opening date to any voters with a valid email address on file, containing the same pertinent information as the mail ballot. Once all ballots have been counted, the Board will certify the results and notify the membership.

Run-Off: If necessary, December 2 through December 16, 2025

If no nominated member receives a majority of the votes cast for a designated seat (Place 5 or Place 6), a run-off will be held between the two members nominated for such place who received the highest number of votes. Ballots will again be scheduled for distribution through the above-mentioned procedures. Run-off ballots should be **submitted online** or **returned by mail**. Paper ballots must be **post marked no later than December 16, 2025** and received by December 23, 2025. Once all ballots have been counted, the Board will certify the results and notify the membership.

Sincerely,



Anumeha Kumar
Executive Director
Austin Firefighters Retirement Fund