



notice update on the request for public information

TRS Board Votes 4-2 to Deny Request for Information

On May 13, 2016 the TRS Board voted 4-2 to deny a request for information made by Lee Newspapers, which included retirees' names and monthly benefit amounts, and to continue its prior instruction to TRS staff that such information may not be released by the retirement system without a final judicial determination that the merits of public disclosure exceed the individual privacy interest of TRS members. Lee Newspapers was [informed](#) that if they wished to pursue the request for information, they will need to file a complaint in Montana district court to initiate a judicial determination.

In an effort to remain transparent without violating the privacy rights of TRS retired members, the TRS Board agreed to release the following information:

- A unique identifier for each retired member record instead of first and last name so the retiree names can later be attached to the information if required by court order
- Last employer
- Retirement date
- Years of service at retirement
- Gross monthly benefit for January 2013
- Gross monthly benefit for January 2014
- Gross monthly benefit for January 2015
- Gross monthly benefit for January 2016

TRS will post updates as necessary on our home page at trs.mt.gov.