

**KENTUCKY RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

THIS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT (the "Agreement" or "Contract") is entered into as of June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 by and between Lazard Asset Management LLC ("Manager"), and Kentucky Retirement Systems ("KRS" or "Systems").

**WITNESSETH:**

WHEREAS, KRS desires to appoint Manager as investment manager with authority to manage and control a portion of KRS' assets held from time to time (the "Account") pursuant to this Contract;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. **Designation of Manager; Prudent Person.** Subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement, KRS hereby appoints Manager as investment manager of the Account with full power and discretion to manage such assets of the Account as KRS designates, such assets not otherwise being subject to the management or control of another investment manager specifically appointed by KRS. Manager hereby accepts appointment as investment manager of the Account pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. Manager shall discharge its duties under this Agreement solely in the interest of KRS with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent investment manager acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of like character and with like aims. In addition, Manager is a "fiduciary" of KRS, as that term is defined the U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), with respect to the investment and management of the assets in the Account.

2. **Custody of Account Assets.** KRS has established or will establish one or more investment accounts at a custodian of KRS's choice (the "Custodian"). Title to all Systems' Account assets shall at all times be registered in the name of Systems or the name of the Systems' Master Custodian or its nominee for the account of Systems, and the indicia of ownership of all Systems' Account assets shall at all times be maintained in trust by the Systems' Master Custodian. The Manager shall at no time have the right to physically possess or to have the securities making up the Account registered in its own name or that of its nominee, nor shall the Manager in any manner acquire or become possessed of any income or proceeds distributable by reason of selling, holding or controlling the Account. KRS shall instruct the Custodian to provide the Manager with written statements of the Account, at least monthly, and such other information as Manager may reasonably request from time to time.

3. **Investment Policy and Procedures.** The Manager hereby agrees to provide the services enumerated in Item 1 and Item 2 above in accordance with the Statement of Investment Policy and Procedures (the "Investment Policy") as issued by Systems, which is attached hereto as Attachment I and incorporated herein by this reference, and the Portfolio Guidelines for the Manager (the "Guidelines"), which are attached hereto as Attachment II and incorporated herein by this reference. Manager shall exercise its power and authority with respect to the Account in accordance with the

Investment Policy. The Investment Policy and Guidelines shall remain in effect until such time as KRS approves (in writing) a modification to the Investment Policy or Guidelines and confirm with Manager (in writing) such modification. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, in the event the terms of the Guidelines conflict with those of the Investment Policy, the terms of the Investment Policy shall control. The Manager will attempt to obtain the "best available price and most favorable execution" with respect to all Account transactions.

4. **Brokerage.** In selecting brokers or dealers, the Manager shall use reasonable efforts to seek the most favorable combination of price and execution, and may consider the fact that a broker or dealer has furnished, or has agreed to furnish in the future, statistical, research or other information or services which enhance the Manager's investment research and portfolio management capability for investing the assets. If Manager accepts or receives such information or services from a broker or dealer, then Manager shall report to KRS in accordance with section 18(c)(iv).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Manager shall not place orders with any broker/dealer who: (a) KRS has by written advance notice to the Manager deemed unsuitable for Account trades, (b) is affiliated with the Manager or (c) KRS has by written advance notice to the Manager advised the Manager it is affiliated with an investment consultant that provides non-brokerage related services to KRS. The Manager agrees to be bound by any changes to such broker/dealer list upon receipt of a timely written notice from KRS. In addition, the Manager shall not engage in transactions that involve a broker acting as a principal where the broker is also the investment manager, without KRS's advance written consent.

5. **Performance Objectives.** The Manager acknowledges that KRS has established performance objectives for the assets in the Account as are set forth in Attachment II attached hereto (the "Guidelines"), as the same may be amended from time to time by KRS in writing, and that failure to consistently meet such performance standards may result in termination of this Agreement. The Manager hereby acknowledges that it has reviewed and is familiar with the Performance Objectives. KRS may amend the Performance Objectives by providing written notice to Manager.

6. **Fees and Terms of Payment.** As consideration for the services rendered pursuant to this Agreement, the Manager shall receive a management fee, payable quarterly, and calculated as outlined in Attachment III. If the fees are not paid by KRS, KRS shall cause the Custodian to compensate Manager for its services under this Agreement from the assets of the Account. Except as provided in Attachment III, the Manager shall not be entitled to receive any additional fees or reimbursements for travel expenses, meals, production materials, or any other service or product provided in connection with this Agreement.

7. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8. **Placement Agents.** The Manager agrees that it will remain in compliance with System's Statement of Disclosure and Placement Agent policy, which is attached hereto as Attachment IV. The Manager warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit and secure this Agreement upon an agreement or understanding for commission, percentage, brokerage or contingency; excepting bona fide employees or selling agents maintained by the Manager for the purpose of securing business unless disclosed in writing, prior to the engagement. The Manager has not paid any placement fees, finder's fees, or gratuities (including gifts and entertainment) to any fiduciary, trustee or employee of KRS. The Manager has not made any contributions that would result an Investment Adviser being disqualified from collecting performance fees under rule 206(4)-5 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

9. **Authorization.** In accordance with this Contract and all Attachments hereto, Manager is hereby authorized, without prior consultation with, or approval of, KRS, to:

- a) use its sole judgment and discretion in the acquisition, placement, maintenance, transfer, swap, sale, or other disposition of any and all Account assets;
- b) bind or commit KRS to any contract(s) or agreement(s) necessary to accomplish its duties and obligations set forth in this Agreement;
- c) direct the Custodian with respect to all powers subject to such direction under any Agreement including, but not limited to, buying and selling securities, signing contracts or other agreements; and
- d) combine orders on behalf of the account with orders on behalf of the Manager or its affiliates or of other clients of the Manager.

10. **Trading Procedures.** All transactions authorized by this Agreement shall be settled through the Custodian, who shall retain sole possession of and have complete custodial responsibility for the assets. The Manager shall notify and instruct the Custodian on (a) orders which the Manager places for the sale or purchase of assets and the management or disposition of such assets, and (b) the purchase or acquisition of other securities or property for the Account. The Manager shall provide the Custodian with such trade information as the Custodian may require to effect settlement, within the time frames as the Custodian may designate. In its sole discretion, KRS may (by giving notice to either the Manager or the Custodian) amend, limit or revoke Manager's above-described authority to direct the Custodian.

11. **Manager Not Acting as Principal.** The Manager shall not act as a principal in sales and/or purchases of the assets, unless the Manager shall have received prior written approval from an Authorized Person (defined below) for such transaction. The Manager shall also not engage in prohibited transactions to the extent set forth in section 406(b) of ERISA.



12. **Trade Confirmation and Settlement.** Where a transaction is eligible for settlement through the Depository Trust Company's Institutional Delivery System, the Manager shall use such System for trade confirmation and settlement. The Manager shall cooperate with KRS's Custodian and other parties to the trade to promptly resolve any trade settlement discrepancies or disputes.

13. **Discretionary Rights and Powers Affecting the Assets.** The Manager may receive information from the Custodian concerning the assets held in the Account, including without limitation, conversion rights, subscription rights, warrants, options, pendency of calls, maturities of securities, expirations of rights, tender and exchange offers, and any other right or power requiring a discretionary decision by the Manager. The Manager shall be responsible for timely directing the Custodian as to the exercise of such rights and/or powers where the Manager has actual knowledge of same, whether by written notice or otherwise.

14. **Acting on Illegal Information.** The Manager shall not place orders to purchase and/or sell any assets on the basis of any material information obtained, or utilized, by the Manager in violation of the securities laws of the United States, or any other country in which the Manager transacts business on the Fund's behalf.

15. **Account Reconciliation.** The Manager shall cooperate with the Custodian to reconcile the Account each month. The Manager shall review all performance and other reports provided to it by the Custodian with respect to the Account assets, and notify KRS in writing of any material errors or discrepancies that are not reconciled.

16. **Notification of Tax Liabilities.** The Manager shall notify KRS if, at any time, the Manager becomes aware of KRS' obligation to pay taxes to any government or to file any returns or other tax documents with respect to income earned on the Account assets. The Manager is not an expert in tax matters and does not possess the information necessary to assist KRS in determining its tax liabilities.

17. **Manager Representations.** Manager hereby represents and acknowledges to KRS that:

- a) Manager is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the state of its organization and has complete authority to carry out its business as it has been conducted;
- b) The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby are within the power of the Manager and have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action. The Manager has duly executed and delivered this Agreement, and this Agreement constitutes the legal, valid and binding agreement and obligation of the Manager, enforceable against the Manager in accordance with its terms, except insofar as such enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar limitations on creditors' rights generally and general principles of equity.
- c) Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement nor the consummation of the transactions provided herein will violate any agreement to which the Manager is a party or by which it is bound, any law, regulation, order, or any provision of the charter documents of the Manager.

- d) Manager is a registered investment adviser as defined in the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (“the Advisers Act”), and therefore eligible to act as an investment manager under ERISA, is registered in or is exempt from registration in accordance with applicable state laws and is not subject to any of the disqualifications set forth in Section 411 of ERISA;
- e) Manager has completed, obtained, and performed all applicable registrations, filings, approvals, authorizations, consents, or examinations required by any government or governmental authority for acts as contemplated by this Agreement;
- f) Manager presently has in effect and will maintain the following insurance coverage for the duration of the Agreement plus twenty-four months after expiration or termination of the Agreement. Proof of the existence of such policies shall be provided to KRS annually with the Compliance Certificate in Attachment V:
  - i) A fidelity bond in the minimum amount of \$10,000,000 with a maximum deductible of \$1,000,000. The bond shall cover at a minimum, losses due to dishonest or fraudulent acts or omissions by the Manager; and
  - ii) An errors and omissions policy in the minimum amount of \$20,000,000 with a maximum deductible of \$1,500,000 per claim. The policy shall cover, at a minimum, losses caused by errors, omissions, or negligent acts of the Manager.
- g) Manager will promptly notify KRS by telephone (at the telephone number set forth below), upon the receipt of information indicating possible risks of seizure, loss, or loss of use of Account assets. Such telephonic notice shall be followed by written notice to KRS within twenty-four hours;
- h) It has disclosed to KRS directly, any litigation pending, and will notify KRS of all future actions against the Manager, related to the performance of its duties as an investment adviser that are likely to materially adversely affect the Account or the Manager’s ability to perform its duties under this Agreement. It also has, and will in the future, promptly disclose to KRS directly, any pending or future investigation of the Manager by the SEC or any other regulatory authority related to the Manager’s performance of duties as an investment adviser that are likely to materially adversely affect the Account or the Manager’s ability to perform its duties under this Agreement; and
- i) Manager will promptly notify KRS as soon as practicable and in writing in the event any of these representations is no longer true.
- j) The Manager will make all required filings with all applicable regulatory agencies within all prescribed deadlines on behalf of its investments of the assets in the Account.
- k) The Manager shall annually file with KRS a compliance certificate, executed by a responsible officer of the Manager’s firm, in the form attached hereto as Attachment V, within thirty (30) days after each December 31.

18. **Reporting Requirements**. Manager shall furnish reports in the format specified by KRS upon their reasonable request.

- a) The Manager shall provide the following reports monthly (either hard copy or by electronic access) within ten (10) business days of month-end:
  - i) Reports describing in detail the previous month's portfolio activities, including GIPS compliant performance tabulations gross and net of fees for the 1-month, 3-month, calendar YTD, fiscal YTD, 1-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year, and since inception as appropriate. A summary of purchases & sales (Account activity), sector weights and other appropriate Account characteristics (e.g. convexity and effective duration, P/E, etc.) for both the benchmark and the Account; and
  - ii) Reports tracking units, original cost, amortized cost, market value, and gain/loss of each holding.
- b) The Manager shall provide quarterly reports within thirty (30) calendar days of calendar quarter-end:
  - i) Reports reviewing portfolio performance (as above) and the Manager's current investment strategy and outlook;
  - ii) A summary of the proxy votes for the quarter;
  - iii) An attribution breakdown for the current quarter, and 1 year periods;
  - iv) Reports tracking the Manager's utilization of brokers/dealers, including the identification of the brokers/dealers utilized, the perceived market costs (market impact) if any, and the dollar volume executed through each broker/dealer, and a commission analysis report;][Please see sample report]
  - v) A synopsis of the key investment decisions made by the manager, his or her underlying rationale, and how those decisions could affect future results;
  - vi) A commentary on investment results in light of the appropriate standards of performance; and
- c) The Manager shall provide annually, after the close of the calendar year:
  - i) A copy of SEC form ADV – Part 2, any amendments thereto as available;
  - ii) A copy of the Manager's annual report and SSAE 16 (if applicable);
  - iii) A Compliance Certificate provided in Attachment V;
  - iv) A report on the Manager's use of soft dollars earned and expended resulting from its duties under this Agreement. The report shall include the products and services

obtained through soft dollar arrangements. Otherwise, the Manager shall indicate in writing that soft dollar information is not applicable to this Account.

- d) The Manager shall provide the following information periodically as reasonably requested:
  - i) Information relating to industries, businesses, corporations or securities as requested by KRS;
  - ii) Reports containing the Manager's and affiliates' conflict of interest policies; and
  - iii) Any other such reports regarding the Account as KRS or the Custodian may reasonably request.

19. **Meetings.** On a periodic basis mutually convenient to Manager and KRS, Manager shall meet with KRS to review the Account investments and to discuss current holdings and future placements and acquisitions. Additionally, the individual or individuals assigned by the Manager to the Systems account must be generally and reasonably accessible by telephone to Systems during regular business hours.

20. **Change in Status.** Manager shall promptly notify KRS in writing of any material change in Manager's business which may adversely affect Manager's ability to perform its duties and responsibilities under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, any change in Manager's status as a registered investment manager, any material litigation, any material adverse changes to the Manager's financial or organizational status or any material change in its senior personnel, and any material change in personnel responsible for managing a KRS Account. Manager has provided KRS with a copy of its Form ADV Part 2 and shall promptly notify KRS of any conflicts of interest arising from Manager and its relationship with any entity. If, at the sole discretion of KRS, it is determined that any relationship would be considered a potential or actual conflict of interest, KRS may require Manager to cease dealing with such entity on behalf of KRS.

21. **KRS Representations.** KRS hereby represents to Manager that the execution and performance of this Agreement and the making of investments of the Account in accordance with this Agreement will not violate any provision of the governing documents of KRS, require KRS to obtain any consent or any waiver that has not heretofore been obtained, or violate any contract or other agreement to which KRS is a party or by which it or its assets (including the Account) may be bound or any statute, rule, regulation or order of any governmental body.

22. **Authorized Parties; Directions to the Manager.** KRS may appoint or designate any person or committee to act on its behalf concerning this Agreement and its operation, as it deems appropriate. KRS has furnished to the Manager a list of authorized persons, in Attachment VI ("Authorized Persons"), which it will update from time to time as necessary and until written notice of changes are received by the Manager, the Manager may conclusively rely upon the authority of the Authorized Persons to act on behalf of KRS. All directions to the Manager by or on behalf of KRS shall be in writing signed by one or more Authorized Persons and the Manager shall be fully protected in relying on such directions.



23. **Assignment.** No party may assign, convey, or otherwise transfer any of its rights, obligations, or interests herein without the prior express written consent of the other party.

24. **Audit or Examination of Records.** The Manager agrees that any authorized representative of KRS shall have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt and transcribe, any directly pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of the Manager relating to this Agreement upon reasonable advance notice and during the Managers normal business hours. The Manager shall retain all records relating to this Agreement for five (5) years following the date of final payment.

25. **Reliance on Representations.** KRS and the Manager each acknowledge that the other will be relying, and shall be entitled to rely, on the representations, undertakings and acknowledgments of the other set forth in this Agreement. KRS and the Manager each agree, subject to this contract, applicable law and the Manager's fiduciary duties, to notify the other promptly if any of its representations, undertakings, or acknowledgments set forth in this Agreement ceases to be true.

26. **Notice.** All notices, instructions and advices with respect to securities transactions or other matters contemplated by this Contract shall be deemed duly given when delivered to and received by the respective parties as follows (a facsimile transmission is acceptable only for purposes of amending this Contract and only if the receipt of such facsimile is confirmed by the recipient. Electronic mail transmissions are acceptable only for purposes of providing notice or instructions with respect to securities transaction or cash flows. Electronic mail transmissions may not be used to terminate or amend this Contract):

The Manager at: Lazard Asset Management LLC  
General Counsel  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10112

KRS at: David Peden  
Interim Chief Investment Officer  
1260 Louisville Rd  
Frankfort KY, 40601  
[facsimile: 502.696.8889]

With a copy to: Brian Thomas  
General Counsel  
1260 Louisville Rd  
Frankfort KY, 40601

Custodian at: Bank of New York Mellon  
Attn: Nina L. Caruso, Vice President  
BNY Mellon Center, Suite 0410  
Pittsburgh, PA 15258  
[facsimile: 412.236.1928]

27. **Controlling Law; Jurisdiction and Venue; Waiver.** All questions as to the execution, validity, interpretation, construction, and performance of this agreement shall be construed in



accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, without regard to conflict of laws principles thereof. The Manager hereby consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and further consents that venue shall lie in the Franklin Circuit Court located in Franklin County, Kentucky. To the extent that in any jurisdiction Manager may now or hereafter be entitled to claim for itself or its assets immunity from suit, execution, attachment (before or after judgment) or other legal process, Manager, to the extent it may effectively do so, irrevocably agrees not to claim, and it hereby waives, same.

28. **Confidentiality.** The parties shall protect the financial privacy of all information relating to the Account and recognizes that the information is confidential in nature. The parties' employees and agents shall be allowed access to the information only as needed for their duties related to the Agreement and in accordance with the rules established by the custodian of the records. The parties shall preserve the confidentiality of the information except where otherwise required by law or requested by an appropriate regulator, and shall maintain positive policies and procedures for safeguarding the confidentiality of such information.

Manager acknowledges that KRS is subject to the Kentucky Open Records Act (Kentucky Revised Statutes 61.870 *et seq.*, as amended, the "Open Records Act"). The Open Records Act contains numerous exceptions to required disclosure, which KRS invokes on a regular basis, as it respects the confidential information of its counterparties to investment contracts. The primary exception to required disclosure that KRS invokes is 61.878(c)(1) – information that would provide a competitive advantage to competitors. KRS interprets this to mean that it is not required to disclose select business terms or portions of agreements, which including, but are not limited to, negotiated economic terms (i.e. management fees, incentive fees, expenses, etc.), of the investment manager or fund as an individual entity. Manager also acknowledges that a party requesting information that is unable to obtain such information directly from KRS may bring legal action (either in a court of law, or by appealing to the attorney general) to compel disclosure of the information.

29. **Remedies.** In addition to the right to terminate this Agreement, and subject to the defenses available to KRS as a result of its sovereign status, each party may also file suit against the other party for breach of contract and/or confidentiality. Should KRS obtain a final judgment against the Manager as a result of a breach of contract, the Manager consents to such final judgment being set-off against any monies owed by KRS to the Manager under this or other contracts. This section shall not be interpreted to limit KRS's remedies as provided for by law. Should Manager obtain a final judgment against KRS as a result of a breach of contract, the exclusive, sole and complete remedy of the Manager shall be payment for services rendered prior to termination.

30. **Securities Lending** The Manager understands that KRS may engage in a "Securities lending program".

31. **Duration of Contract.** The period in which subject services are to be performed is - June 15, 2014, through June 30, 2017. However, termination or cancellation may be effected at any time by either party as provided below. At the expiration of its term, this agreement may, at the option of the parties hereto, be extended by negotiation for additional periods.

32. **Termination.** KRS and Manager reserve the right to terminate this Agreement without penalty under any one of the following circumstances:

- a) At KRS's discretion, with or without cause, after five (5) business days written notice to the Manager or at Manager's discretion upon thirty (30) calendar days written notice. Manager shall cooperate with KRS and follow KRS's reasonable written directions in connection with the termination of this agreement to effect the orderly transfer of securities; or
- b) At KRS's discretion, immediately, if a result of the Manager's default or material breach of contract.

Following termination notification, Manager shall not take any action with respect to the Account, unless specifically authorized to do so by KRS. In the event of termination of the Agreement, the exclusive, sole and complete remedy of the Manager in connection with this Agreement shall be payment for services rendered prior to termination.

33. **Withdrawal of Assets from Management.** KRS may withdraw from and decrease the Account assets in its sole discretion, with a reasonable prior notice. Any such notice shall set forth the amount of any such withdrawal or identify the investment assets and amount of cash to be withdrawn, the date as of which such withdrawal shall be effective and such other information that KRS deems necessary or appropriate. On and after the effective date of such withdrawal and decrease and except as may otherwise be set forth in such notice, the Manager shall cease to be responsible for future investment of the assets and/or cash withdrawn.

34. **Amendments.** Except as otherwise provided herein, written modifications, amendments or additions to this Contract shall be effective only when signed by both parties. At the expiration of its term, this Contract may, at the option of the parties hereto, be renewed by negotiation for further periods not to exceed 60 months for each such renewal.

35. **Conflicts of Laws.** Manager hereby certifies Manager is legally entitled to enter into the subject contract with the Commonwealth of Kentucky and certifies that to the best of its knowledge Manager is not and will not be violating any conflict of interest statute (KRS 121.056 or any other applicable statute) or principle by the performance of this Contract. The Manager shall not knowingly engage directly or indirectly in any financial or other transaction with a trustee or employee of Systems which would violate standards of the Executive Branch Ethics provisions, as set forth in KRS Chapter 11A.

36. **Purchasing by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.** The Manager hereby certifies that it will not attempt in any manner to influence any specifications to be restrictive in any way or respect nor will he attempt in any way to influence any purchasing of services, commodities or equipment by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

37. **Severability.** In case one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall be found to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions contained herein shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

38. **Miscellaneous.** Both parties reserve the right to refuse to renew this Agreement in their sole discretion and for any reason. All section headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only, do not form part of this Agreement, and will not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.




No term or provision of this Agreement may be waived except in writing signed by the party against whom such waiver is sought to be enforced. A party's failure to insist at any time on strict compliance with this Agreement or with any of the terms of the Agreement or any continued course of such conduct on its part will not constitute or be considered a waiver by such party of any of its rights or privileges. Manager is an independent contractor, and nothing in this Agreement may be interpreted or construed to create any employment, partnership, joint venture or other relationship between Manager and KRS. This Agreement contains the entire understanding between KRS and Manager concerning the subject matter of this Agreement, and supersedes all prior agreements, arrangements and understandings, written or oral, between the parties.

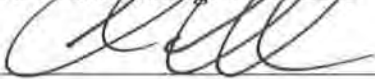
39. **Voting of Proxies.** The Manager shall exercise voting rights with respect to securities under its management. Manager is authorized and directed to vote all proxies and effect any corporate actions in accordance with Manager's Proxy Voting Policy. The Manager shall maintain detailed records of its performance of this duty and shall provide those records to KRS quarterly.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date first above written.

**Kentucky Retirement Systems**

By:   
Name: Joe Gilbert  
Title: Director of Equity  
Date: 06/05/14

**Lazard Asset Management LLC**

By:   
Name: CHARLES L CARROLL  
Title: DEPUTY CHAIRMAN  
Date: 6/11/14



**ATTACHMENT I**

Investment Policy and Procedures

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## **Kentucky Retirement Systems**

Statement of Investment Policy

Adopted November 20, 2013

This statement of investment policy is issued by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems (Systems) in connection with investing the pension and insurance funds of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement System and the State Police Retirement System. This document supersedes all prior documents entitled Statement of Investment Policy.

### **I. The Board of Trustees**

The Kentucky Retirement Systems is a "Qualified Pension Plan" under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code and is administered by a board of nine trustees.

KRS 61.701 establishes the "Kentucky Retirement Systems Insurance Fund" as a separate fund to provide fringe benefits to recipients of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, County Employees Retirement System and State Police Retirement System. KRS 61.702 provides that all amounts necessary to provide for insurance benefits shall be paid to the insurance fund. The Board shall administer the fund in the same manner as the retirement funds.

Six trustees are appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (two of which must be filled by persons with specific experience as required in Section 61.645.1.e.2), two trustees are elected by the membership of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, three trustees are elected by the membership of the County Employees Retirement System, and one trustee is elected by the membership of the State Police Retirement System. The Secretary of the Personnel Cabinet is an ex-officio trustee.

The Board of Trustees authorizes and directs the appointment of an Investment Committee with full power to act for the board in the acquisition, sale and management of the securities and funds of the Systems in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes and Investment Policy of the Board. The Board shall review the actions of the Investment Committee at each quarterly Board meeting.

### **II. The Investment Committee**

The Investment Committee consists of five members of the Board of Trustees. Three members of the committee are appointed by the chairperson of the Board of Trustees. In accordance with statute, two positions are filled by the Trustees that were appointed to the board as persons with specific experience (Section 61.645.1.e.2). The committee acts on behalf of the board on investment related matters.

The Investment Committee has the following oversight responsibilities:

- A. Assure compliance with this policy and all applicable laws and regulations.
- B. Approve the selection and termination of service providers.



- C. Meet quarterly to evaluate whether this policy, the investment activities and management controls and processes continue to be consistent with meeting the Systems' goals. Mandate actions necessary to maintain the overall effectiveness of the program.
- D. Review assessment of investment program management processes and procedures, and this policy relative to meeting stated goals.

### III. Staff Responsibilities

The Chief Investment Officer is responsible for administration of investment assets of the Systems consistent with the policies, guidelines and limits established by the law, this Statement of Investment Policy and the Investment Committee.

The Chief Investment Officer receives direction from and reports to the Investment Committee and the Executive Director of the Systems on all investment matters, including but not limited to the following:

- A. Maintaining the diversification and risk exposure of the funds consistent with policies and guidelines.
- B. Monitoring and assessing service providers, including annual onsite visits, to assure that they meet expectations and conform to policies and guidelines.
- C. Assess and report on the performance and risk exposure of the overall investment program relative to goals, objectives, policies and guidelines.
- D. Recommend changes to service providers, statutes, policies or guidelines as needed to maintain a productive relationship between the investment program and its goals; act as liaison on all investment related matters.
- E. Communicating with the mass media and other agencies, entities or institutions regarding investment related issues.
- F. Identify issues for consideration by the Investment Committee and prepare recommendations regarding such matters.

The Chief Investment Officer or designee is authorized to execute trades on fixed income and equity securities (including ETF's) and to execute proxies for the Board consistent with this Policy.

To carry out this Policy and investment related decisions of the Board, the Chief Investment Officer or designee is authorized to execute agreements and other necessary or proper documents pertaining to investment managers, consultants, investment related transactions or other investment functions.

### IV. Service Providers

#### A. Investment Managers

In instances where the Investment Committee has determined it is desirable to employ the services of an external Investment Manager, the following shall be applicable:

1. Investment Managers shall be qualified and agree to serve as a fiduciary to the



Systems and shall generally have been in the business of investment management for large United States institutional investors for at least three to five years.

2. Investment Managers shall manage assets in accordance with this Policy and any additional guidelines established by contract, as may be modified in writing from time to time.

#### B. Custody Bank

The Board shall hire custodians and other agents who will be fiduciaries to the Systems and who will assume responsibility for the safekeeping and accounting of all assets held on behalf of the Systems and other duties as agreed to by contract.

#### C. Investment Consultants

Qualified independent investment consultants may be retained by the Systems for asset allocation studies, asset allocation recommendations, performance reviews, manager searches and other investment related consulting functions and duties as set forth by contract.

#### D. Selection

Qualified investment managers, custody banks, investment consultants and other service providers shall be selected by the Investment Committee or Chief Investment Officer as required. The selection shall be based upon the demonstrated ability of the professional(s) to provide the required expertise or assistance. In order to create an efficient and effective process, the Investment Committee or Chief Investment Officer may, in their sole discretion, utilize RFI, RFP, third party proprietary software or database, review of existing service provider capabilities or any combination of these or other methods to select a service provider. Relevant criteria for the selection of investment managers are contained in the Transactions Procedures statement.

All contact and communication with service providers seeking a business relationship with the Systems shall be directed to the Division Director for that specific asset class. However, this rule is not applicable to existing service providers if the contact or communication is in response to an information request from the Investment Committee or if it is incidental contact not related to specific Systems business.

### V. Investment Philosophy

The Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems recognize their fiduciary duty not only to invest the Systems' funds in formal compliance with the Prudent Person Rule but also to manage those funds in continued recognition of the basic long term nature of those systems. The Trustees interpret this to mean, in addition to the specific guidelines and restrictions set forth in this document, that the assets of the three systems shall be proactively managed -- that is, investment decisions regarding the particular asset classes, strategies, and securities to be purchased or sold shall be the result of the conscious exercise of discretion.

The Trustees recognize that, commensurate with their overall objective of maximizing long-range return while maintaining a high standard of portfolio quality and consistency of return, it is necessary that proper diversification of assets be maintained both across and within the classes of securities held



to minimize/mitigate overall portfolio risk. Consistent with carrying out their Fiduciary Responsibilities and the concept of Modern Portfolio Theory, the Trustees will not systematically exclude any investments in companies, industries, countries, or geographic areas unless required to do so by statute. Within this context of proactive management and the necessity for adherence to proper diversification, the Trustees rely upon appropriate professional advice from multiple service providers.

The Trustees and other fiduciaries shall discharge their duties with respect to the Systems: (1) solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries; (2) for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries; (3) with the care, skill and caution under the circumstances then prevailing which a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with those matters would use in the conduct of an activity of like character and purpose; (4) impartially; (5) incurring and paying appropriate and reasonable expenses of administration and (6) in accordance with a good faith interpretation of the laws, regulations and other instruments governing the Systems.

Additionally, the Trustees and other fiduciaries shall not engage in any transaction which results in a substantial diversion of the Systems income or assets without adequate security and reasonable rate of return to a disqualified person or in any other prohibited transaction described in Internal Revenue Code Section 503(b).

## VI. Investment Objectives

The Board of Trustees realizes that prudent investment management is a duty. In fulfillment of this duty, the Board of Trustees recognizes that while long-term objectives are important, it is also necessary that short-term benchmarks be used to assess the periodic performance of the investment program.

Accordingly, the Board of Trustees has established the following investment objectives:

- **Long-Term:**
  - The total assets of the Systems should achieve a return which exceeds the actuarially required rate of return of 7.75%.
  - In addition to exceeding the actuarially required rate of return, the total fund return should exceed the return achieved by its blended performance benchmark.
- **Short-Term:**
  - The returns of the particular asset classes of the System, measured on a rolling basis, should seek to exceed the returns achieved by comparable passive market indices as described in the appropriate Addendum of this statement.

## VII. Derivative Securities and Leveraging

### **Definition:**

A derivative is broadly defined as a financial instrument whose value, usefulness, and marketability is derived from or linked to the value of an underlying security.

Definitions and examples in the investment universe include:

**Forward Contracts** - a forward contract is a non-standardized, Over-the-Counter (OTC) contract between two parties, governed by ISDA agreements, to buy or sell an asset at a specified future time at a price agreed to today. This is in contrast to a spot contract, which is an agreement to buy or sell an asset at a set price today. It costs nothing to enter a forward contract. The party agreeing to buy the underlying asset in the future assumes a long position, and the party agreeing to sell the asset in the future assumes a short position. The price agreed upon is called the delivery price, which is equal to the forward price at the time the contract is entered into. An example of a forward contract is a currency forward contract. Currency forward contracts are commonly used to hedge foreign currency risk, which is an inherent risk of investing in international assets.

**Futures Contracts** - a futures contract is a standardized, exchange traded contract between two parties to buy or sell a specified asset of standardized quantity and quality at a specified future date at a price agreed to today (the futures price). Futures contracts are not "direct" securities like stocks, bonds, rights or warrants. The party agreeing to buy the underlying asset in the future assumes a long position and the party agreeing to sell the asset in the future assumes a short position. Futures may be settled in cash or physically settled depending on the characteristics of the underlying asset and the specifications of the contract. If futures are physically settled the buyer must make arrangements for taking physical delivery. An example of a futures contract is the S&P 500 Futures contract which is traded at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. The S&P 500 futures contract is commonly used for equitization of cash held in the equity portfolio of a fund so as to keep un-invested cash levels at a minimum. Futures contracts have many other uses for portfolio managers and are considered a valuable tool for adding flexibility and cost effectiveness to the management of a portfolio.

**Options** - Options are derivative financial instruments that may be standardized, exchange traded, or OTC contracts that specify a contract between two parties for a future transaction on an asset at a reference price. The buyer of the option gains the right, but not the obligation, to engage in that transaction, while the seller incurs the corresponding obligation to fulfill the transaction. The price of an option is derived from the difference between the reference price and the value of the underlying asset (commonly a stock, a bond, a currency or a futures contract) plus a premium based on the time to maturity, expected volatility, and the interest rate environment. Other types of options exist, and options can in principle be created for any type of valuable asset.

An option which conveys the right to buy an asset is called a call; an option which conveys the right to sell an asset is called a put. The reference price at which the underlying asset may be traded is called the strike price or exercise price. The process of activating an option and thereby trading the underlying asset is referred to as exercising it. While there are several styles of option contracts the two most common are American-style contracts and European-style contracts. American-style options contracts may be exercised at or before expiration while European-style options may only be exercised at expiration. Most options have an expiration date while others have strike reset points. If the option is not exercised by the expiration date, it becomes void and worthless.

In return for assuming the obligation, called writing the option, the originator of the option collects a payment, a premium, from the buyer. The writer of an option must make good on delivering (or receiving) the underlying asset or its cash equivalent, if the option is exercised.



An example of an option contract is an S&P 500 put contract. These contracts may be used by a portfolio manager to purchase downside portfolio protection or may be combined with other options contracts to temper volatility in the portfolio, thus reducing risk.

**Swaps and Swaptions** – Swaps are derivative financial instruments in which counterparties exchange certain benefits of one party's financial instrument for those of the other party's financial instrument. (Swaptions are simply options on swaps) Most swaps are non-standardized, OTC contracts between two parties and are governed by ISDA agreements. Some types of swaps are also exchanged on public markets such as the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Intercontinental Exchange and Frankfurt-based Eurex AG. The benefits of a swap depend on the type of financial instruments involved. At the initiation of a swap contract, two counterparties agree to exchange one stream of cash flows against another stream. These streams are called the legs of the swap. The swap agreement defines the dates when the cash flows are to be paid and the way they are calculated. Usually at the time when the contract is initiated, at least one of these series of cash flows is determined by a reference point such as an interest rate, foreign exchange rate, equity price or commodity price. The cash flows are calculated on a notional principal amount, which is usually not exchanged between counterparties. Value transfers can be made with cash or collateral depending on contract terms.

An example of a swap contract is an interest rate swap. An interest rate swap is an agreement to exchange a series of cash flows on periodic settlement dates over a certain time period. The duration properties of interest rate swaps are the primary reason for their popularity as an effective portfolio management tool for fixed income managers. If a fixed income manager agrees to pay a floating rate and receive a fixed rate in a swap, s/he will be increasing duration in her/his portfolio.

**Warrants** - a warrant is a type of derivative security that entitles the holder to buy or sell the underlying stock of the issuing company at a fixed exercise price until the expiry date. Warrants may be either exchange traded or OTC in nature. OTC Warrants are typically long term in nature.

Warrants are frequently attached to bonds (to reduce interest rates for the issuer) or preferred stock (to reduce dividend payments) as a sweetener. Warrants can also be used in private equity deals. Frequently, these warrants are detachable, and can be sold independently of the bond or stock. (Typically traded OTC)

*This list is not intended to be an all encompassing list of derivative contracts available for use in the portfolios, but rather, to display a sample of the most common types of contracts and describe the spirit of their intended use in the portfolios.*

#### **Derivatives Permitted Use:**

KRS permits external managers and Investment Division (Staff) to invest in derivative securities, or strategies which make use of derivative investments, for exposure, cost efficiency and risk management purposes, if such investments do not cause the portfolio to be leveraged beyond a 100% invested position. Any derivative security shall be sufficiently liquid that it can be expected to be sold at, or near, its most recently quoted market price. Typical uses of derivatives in the portfolio are broadly defined below:

**Exposure:**

Derivatives are an effective way for a portfolio manager to gain exposure to a security that the manager does not want to purchase in the cash market. Reasons for gaining exposure to a security through the use of derivatives may include cheaper transactions costs, liquidity/lack of supply in the underlying market, and the flexibility to implement investment views with minimum portfolio disruption. An example is a cash equitization program.

**Cost Efficiency:**

Derivatives are often used due to the cost efficiency associated with the contract properties. Given the fact that derivatives can be used as a form of insurance, upfront trading costs must be sufficiently low for investors to purchase the contract and insure their portfolios efficiently. Furthermore, due to properties associated with derivatives and cash outlay characteristics (minimal cash outlay at inception of the contract) derivatives are generally a vehicle of gaining cost efficient exposure. An example is the cost (zero) to purchase a futures contract.

**Risk Management:**

Derivatives can be used for mitigating risk in the portfolio. When used as a risk management tool, derivatives can significantly reduce an identified financial risk or involuntary risk from investment areas by providing changes in fair values or cash flows that substantially offset the changes in fair values or cash flows of the associated item being hedged. An example is the use of currency forwards to offset periods of dollar strength when international equity markets increase in value, thereby protecting foreign asset gains in the portfolio.

**Derivatives Restricted Use:****Settlement:**

Investments in futures contracts are to be cash settled unless physically settled and stored by external managers. At no time shall KRS agree to take physical delivery on a futures contract.

**Position Limits:**

Futures and options positions entered into by KRS, or on its behalf, will comply with all position and aggregate limits established by the local governing authorities within each jurisdiction.

**Investment:**

Investments in securities such as collateralized mortgage obligation (CMO), planned amortization class (PAC) issues, interest only (IO), principal only (PO), inverse floater, or structured note securities are prohibited unless specifically allowed in a manager's contract and delineated in the manager's guidelines. They will only be allowed if, in the judgment of the investment manager, they are not expected to be subject to large or unanticipated changes in duration or cash flows. IO, PO, inverse floaters, and structured note securities are not allowed for use in cash or core fixed income portfolios.

**Over-the-Counter (OTC):**

Investments in securities not traded on public exchanges that are deemed Over-the-Counter (OTC) in nature are allowed provided that a counterparty risk monitoring component is delineated in the manager's guideline section of the manager's contract. All counterparties must have a short-term credit rating of at least A- (Standard and Poor's or Fitch) or A3 (Moody's).

All OTC derivative transactions, including those managed through Agency Agreements, must be subject to established International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. (ISDA) Master Agreements and have full documentation of all legal obligations of KRS under the transactions. All ISDA Master Agreements entered into by or on behalf of KRS by the Investment Division (Staff) and external manager pursuant to an Agency Agreement shall provide that Netting applies. (Netting allows the parties to an ISDA Master Agreement to aggregate the amounts owed by each of them under all of the transactions outstanding under that ISDA Master Agreement and replace them with a single net amount payable by one party to the other.) The Investment Division (Staff) and external managers may also use collateral arrangements to mitigate counterparty credit or performance risk. If an external manager utilizes a collateral arrangement to mitigate counterparty credit or performance risk the arrangement shall be delineated in the manager's guideline section of the manager's contract.

**Derivatives Applications Not Permitted:**

**Speculation:**

Except for investments in alternative, absolute return investments, and real return investments, derivatives may not be used for any activity for which the primary purpose is speculation or to profit while materially increasing risk to KRS. Derivatives are considered speculative if their uses have no material relation to objectives and strategies specified by KRS IPS or applicable to the portfolio. Derivatives may not be used for circumventing any limitations or restrictions imposed by the KRS IPS or applicable regulatory requirements.

**Leverage:**

Leverage is inherent in derivative contracts since only a small cash deposit is required to establish a much larger economic impact position. Thus, relative to the cash markets, where in most cases the cash outlay is equal to the asset acquired, derivative investments offer the possibility of establishing substantially larger market risk exposures with the same amount of cash as a traditional cash market portfolio. Therefore, risk management and control processes must focus on the total risk assumed in a derivative investment. Leveraging for purposes of enhancing yield or total return is expressly prohibited except for investments in alternative and absolute return investments, and real return investments. Furthermore, the use of leveraged ETF's as a means to circumvent derivatives applications not permitted is expressly forbidden. Investment managers in alternative, absolute return investments, and real return investments strategies are granted the authority to engage in positive leverage to the extent authorized in their offering memorandum and delineated in the manager's guideline section of the manager's contract.

*The above is not intended to limit KRS from borrowing to cover short-term cash flow needs nor prohibit KRS from loaning securities in accordance with a securities lending agreement.*



## VIII. Asset Allocation Guidelines

In establishing asset allocation guidelines the Board recognizes that each system has its own capacity to tolerate investment volatility, or risk. Therefore, each system has been studied and asset allocation guidelines have been established on a system by system basis. The Board will cause the asset allocation guidelines of each system to be reviewed annually. The Board will also undertake an asset liability study every three to five years as determined by program needs.

The intent of the Board of Trustees in allocating funds to the investment managers is for the investment managers to fully invest the funds. However, the Board of Trustees is aware that from time to time the investment manager will require a portion of the allocated funds to be held in cash provided the cash holdings do not exceed three percent (3%) of the manager's allocation for any given quarter, unless such cash holdings are an integral part of a fixed income manager's investment strategy.

The individual plan level asset allocations of the each Pension and Insurance Fund constituent will be reviewed monthly by staff relative to its target asset class allocation. Staff shall reallocate the assets when the actual asset class allocation is within one percentage point of the allowable range boundary, but may also opportunistically reallocate when the actual asset class allocation exceeds the target asset class allocation by a margin of +/- 1 percentage points. See Appendix A and B for current asset allocation targets.

In keeping with its responsibility as trustee and wherever consistent with its fiduciary responsibility, the board encourages the investment of the fund's assets in investments, funds, and securities of corporations which provide a positive contribution to the economy of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. However, where any security is not a prohibited investment under the governing laws and policies, discretion will be granted to the appointed investment managers in the selection of such securities and timing of transactions consistent with the following guidelines and restrictions.

### A. Domestic Equity Investments

Investment may be made in common stock, securities convertible into common stock, preferred stock of publicly traded companies on stock markets, asset class relevant ETF's or any other type of security contained in a manager's benchmark. Each individual domestic equity account shall have a comprehensive set of investment guidelines prepared, which contains a listing of permissible investments, portfolio restrictions and standards of performance for the account.

The internally managed equity index funds are intended, consistent with the governing plan documents, to gain exposure to a broad asset sector to replicate the characteristics of the asset class, to minimize administrative expenses and to help achieve overall portfolio objectives. These objectives can be achieved through several management techniques, including but not limited to, portfolio optimization, non-reinvestment of index dividends and other management techniques intended to help achieve the objectives of the entire pension fund.

#### B. International Equity Investments

Investments may be made in common stock, securities convertible into common stock, preferred stock of publicly traded companies on stock markets, asset class relevant ETF's or any other type of security contained in a manager's benchmark. Each individual international equity account shall have a comprehensive set of investment guidelines prepared, which contains a listing of permissible investments, portfolio restrictions and standards of performance for the account.

The internally managed equity index funds are intended, consistent with the governing plan documents, to gain exposure to a broad asset sector to replicate the characteristics of the asset class, to minimize administrative expenses and to help achieve overall portfolio objectives. These objectives can be achieved through several management techniques, including but not limited to, portfolio optimization, non-reinvestment of index dividends and other management techniques intended to help achieve the objectives of the entire pension fund.

#### C. Fixed Income Investments

Fixed Income investments will be similar in type to those securities found in the KRS fixed income benchmarks and the characteristics of the KRS fixed income portfolio will be similar to the KRS fixed income benchmarks. The fixed income accounts may include, but are not limited to the following fixed income securities: U.S. Government and Agency bonds, investment grade U.S. corporate credit, investment grade non-U.S. corporate credit, non-investment grade U.S. corporate credit including both bonds and bank loans, non-investment grade non U.S. corporate credit including bonds and bank loans, municipal bonds, non-U.S. sovereign debt, mortgages including residential mortgage backed securities, commercial mortgage backed securities, and whole loans, asset-backed securities, and emerging market debt including both sovereign EMD and corporate EMD and asset class relevant ETF's.

Each individual fixed income account shall have a comprehensive set of investment guidelines prepared, which contains a listing of permissible investments, portfolio restrictions, risk parameters, and standards of performance for the account.

#### D. Private Equity Investments

Subject to specific approval of the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees, investments may be made for the purpose of creating a diversified portfolio of alternative investments. Examples of such investments include, but are not limited to, venture capital partnerships, private equity, leveraged buyouts and funds, private debt, timberland, oil and gas partnerships, commodities and private placements. While it is expected that the majority of these assets will be invested within the United States, a portion has been allocated to non-US investments. These non-U.S. investments are not restricted by geography.



### **Guidelines for Private Equity**

The private equity market is highly sophisticated and specialized with respect to variety and types of investment structures. There exist major competition for deal flow on the part of both investor and general partners. To a great extent, market forces drive the bargaining of economic terms. Most investment vehicles are structured as commingled vehicles and often blind pool investment partnerships. The most common offering forms are equity private placements where the governing laws of the partnership impose a passive role of the limited partner investor. These contractual arrangements are long-term in nature and provide the general partner or sponsors a reasonable time horizon to wisely invest capital, add value through intensive operational management, then realize the proceeds of such an investment. Moreover, terms of the partnership are proposed by the general partner are critical to the economic incentives and ultimate net performance of the partnership.

Over the long term, KRS will use a specified index plus risk premium approach.

### **Investment Strategy and Plan Guidelines**

To strengthen the diversification of the investments, several guidelines will be utilized in Staff's formulation and recommended annual investment strategy and plan. These guidelines encompass annual commitment levels to the asset class, types of investment vehicles that can be utilized, controlling financing stage risks, industry, manager and geography concentration/diversification limits, acceptable contact negotiations, appropriate sizes for investments, and the preferred alignment of interests.

*Investment Vehicles:* KRS will gain exposure to private equity investments by hiring external investment managers either directly or through participation in secondary private equity markets. Typically, the Fund will subscribe as a Limited Partner to limited partnership vehicles sponsored by such specialty external investment managers. KRS may also gain exposure by utilizing the following vehicles: limited liability companies and co-investments alongside the Fund's existing or potential limited partnerships.

*Investment Timing Risks:* Staff should limit the potential for any one investment to negatively impact the long-term results of the portfolio by investing across business cycles. Moreover, the portfolio must gain exposure to the array of financing stages by opportunistically exploiting the best investments at different stages of the business cycle. Staff may also consider purchasing secondary partnership interests to shorten the effective life of the partnership interest and therefore positively impacting the current and long term net return of the portfolio. In addition, mindful of vintage year diversification, KRS should seek to identify attractive commitments annually, further ensuring the portfolio invests across business cycles.

*General Partner Diversification:* Staff will seek to work with a variety of general partners due to their specialized expertise in particular segments of the private equity market and source of their deal flow. No more than fifteen (15) percent of the Fund's total allocation to private



equity investments may be committed to any one partnership, without the approval of the Board.

***Geographical Diversification:*** To ensure geographical diversification, the target range for total commitments outside of the United States will be 15-45% through commitments to funds located and or investing both in and outside of the United States.

***Industry/Sector Concentration:*** As fallout of diversified commitments outlined above, it is expected that the portfolio will be generally diversified by sector/industry. KRS will maintain diversification by ensuring:

No more than 35% of total net assets of the private equity portfolio may be invested in a single sector of the domestic economy.

No more than 50% of total net assets of the private equity portfolio may be invested in a single industry within a particular sector.

No more than 10% of total net assets of the private equity portfolio may be invested in any single equity or debt related assets.

### **Subcategory Strategy**

The private equity portfolio includes strategic subcategory classifications including venture capital, buyouts and debt-related. The target percentages set forth below for each category are based on invested capital. For specific plan allocations to Private Equity, Please refer to Appendix A for the Pension funds and Appendix B for the Insurance funds. All plans will have a policy range of 5% and KRS staff shall periodically review policy ranges targets.

The following sub-asset target allocations are based on market value and will have a range of +/- 10%:

<b>Sub-Category</b>	<b>Target Allocations</b>	<b>Ranges</b>
Venture Capital	20.0%	10-30%
Buyouts	60.0%	50-70%
Debt-Related	20.0%	10-30%

### **E. Real Estate Investments**

Subject to specific approval of the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees, Investments may be made in equity and debt real estate for the purpose of achieving the highest total rate of return possible consistent with a prudent level of risk. Allowable real estate investments include open-end and closed-end commingled real estate funds, joint venture investments, public and private REITs (real estate investment trusts), public real estate operating companies, and real estate related debt.

Private real estate investments are unique and can be illiquid and long term in nature. Given

that this may lead to large short term performance discrepancies versus public benchmarks, KRS more appropriately measures its real estate investments based on both relative return and absolute return methodologies:

*Relative Return:* The real estate portfolio is expected to generate returns, net of all fees and expenses, in excess of the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries Open End Diversified Core Equity Index (“NCREIF ODCE”) lagged 1 month.

*Absolute Return:* The long term real return objective (returns adjusted for inflation) for the KRS real estate portfolio is five percent (5%), net of investment management fees. This return shall be calculated on a time-weighted basis using industry standard reporting methodologies.

KRS has determined that the primary role of the real estate asset class is to provide for the following:

- Attractive risk adjusted returns through active management and ability to access managers with the expertise and capabilities to exploit market inefficiencies in the asset class.

The illiquid nature of real estate investments combined with the complexity of investments makes it difficult for casual investors to effectively access the asset class effectively.

It is the belief that through active management and by investing in top tier managers with interests aligned through co-investment and incentive based compensation, KRS can maximize its risk adjusted returns.

This active management approach will be pursued.

- Diversification benefits through low correlations with other asset classes, primarily the U.S. equity markets.
- Provide a hedge against unanticipated inflation, which real estate has historically provided due to lease structures and the increases in material and labor costs during inflationary periods.
- Permit KRS to invest in unique opportunities that arise due to dislocations in markets that occur from time to time.

#### Allocation to Real Estate Asset Class

KRS divides the real estate investment universe into core, value-add, opportunistic and public securities sectors, with descriptive attributes of each listed below. It should be noted that targeted returns for each sector denoted in the descriptions below are based on industry

guidelines and may vary based on different points in market cycles and changes in general inflation levels.

#### A. Core Properties

- Operating, substantially leased office, retail, industrial or apartment properties. Several alternative property types may be included in Core such as self-storage, medical office, ground leases, senior housing and triple net leased properties to the extent they exhibit similar risk and return attributes to the traditional Core property types.
- Generally have institutional qualities for size, physical attributes and location.
- Target total returns of 7%-9% per year (net of fees and promoted interest), with a high proportion of the total return to be generated from current income and a small proportion of the total return generated from appreciation.
- Leverage for core properties is moderate with an upper limit of 50% loan to value.

#### B. Value Added Properties

- Office, retail, industrial or apartment properties that have moderate risk associated with their investment. Several alternative property types may be included in Value-Added such as self-storage, medical office, senior housing and triple net leased properties to the extent they exhibit similar risk and return attributes for Value-Added investments.
- Value-Added investments are targeted to capitalize on defects with specific properties that can be identifiable and correctable through leasing, re-development, management and/or recapitalization.
- Target returns for value added investments are 9% to 12% per year (net of fees and promoted interest).
- Leverage for value added investments is generally limited to approximately 65% loan to value.

#### C. Opportunistic Investments

- Opportunistic investments can be comprised of any property sector. Opportunistic investments can include office, retail, industrial and apartments with high-risk attributes. In addition, hotels, operating companies, development, land and distressed properties are all examples of opportunistic investments
- Leverage for opportunistic investments can be 75% loan to value or higher in certain cases.



- Opportunistic investments will target returns in excess of 12% (net of fees and promoted interest) in order to compensate for the additional risk commensurate with the increased risk compared to core property investments.

#### D. Public Securities

- Public Real Estate securities (“Public Securities”) do not allow for control over the assets or management. Examples of public securities may include REITs and CMBS, among others. Investment strategies using public securities may be classified as core, value-add, or opportunistic strategies based on the characteristics of those specific investments and are reviewed on a case by case basis. Real estate strategies utilizing public securities that provide daily liquidity to KRS shall be required to be classified as “Public Securities” under the Investment Policy Statement.
- Public Securities generally have higher risk and return characteristics than Core properties due to higher leverage and operating company risks. In addition, the daily pricing of securities result in additional reported volatility of returns.
- Daily pricing and public market trading provide liquidity. However, due to small float and limited market capitalization of Public Securities, improved liquidity may come at a price.
- The emergence of the international Public Securities market has broadened the universe to include Asia, European, Australian and North American property companies.
- Expected returns are approximately 9%-11% (net of fees) over a 10-year period and 11-13% (net of fees) for non-U.S. Public Securities.

#### Diversification and Risk Management Guidelines

The policy ranges for the real estate portfolio sectors have been set with reasonably wide ranges in order to allow KRS to capitalize on market inefficiencies and attractive opportunities, while also maintaining a certain level of low risk stability to the portfolio. Since many of the real estate investments will be private market investments in commingled funds, KRS will not have precise control over the actual real estate exposure. Funding, de-funding and rebalancing the portfolio may be protracted (like private equity) due to the asset classes illiquid characteristics.

#### A. Sector Diversification

KRS will seek to limit investments using the following diversification limits:

	Target	Range
Core:	70%	50% to 90%
Value Added:	20%	10% to 30%
Opportunistic:	10%	0% to 20%
Public Securities:	0%	0% to 20%

#### B. Investment Vehicles

Due to the size of KRS's portfolio, the preferred investment structure is commingled funds. Exceptions may be for public equity accounts which may be efficiently invested through a separate account or single property investments. Single property investments shall be limited to no more than 5% of the total real estate allocation.

KRS may also consider co-investment opportunities in cases where discounted fees and appropriate diversification can be achieved for a particular investment opportunity.

#### C. Diversification

KRS will seek to control risk in its real estate investment program by diversifying its investments by investment manager, property type and location diversification.

#### D. Investment Manager

KRS will limit the amount committed to any one investment manager to the larger of twenty percent (20%) of the total allocation for real estate investments or 1% of the total funds value at the time of commitment.

#### E. Property Type Diversification

KRS will seek to limit investments by property type diversification using the following limits:

Office: 0% to 40% of the total allocation

Retail: 0% to 40% of the total allocation

Apartment: 0% to 40% of the total allocation

Industrial: 0% to 40% of the total allocation

F. Other: 0% to 40% of the total allocation (other includes hotels, self-storage, parking, etc.)

#### Geographic Diversification

The KRS real estate portfolio shall seek to include investments diversified across various locations with different economic concentrations. The portfolio shall be at least 80% invested in U.S. markets.

Diversification will be monitored with respect to major regional areas; e.g. Pacific, Mountain, Southwest, Southeast, Mideast, Northeast, East North Central, West North Central. International monitoring will be carried out in a similar fashion as that used domestically.

#### G. Total Leverage

KRS recognizes that leverage is an inherent component of real estate investments and use of leverage can be an effective means to increase overall returns from time to time on a risk-adjusted basis. There will be a limit of 65% of the total portfolio placed on the use of leverage.

All portfolio leverage will be secured through the individual fund investments. There will be no recourse debt permitted.

#### H. Vintage Year Risks

KRS will seek to avoid any concentrated vintage year risks.

#### F. Real Return Investments

The purpose of the Real Return Portfolio is to identify strategies that provide both favorable stand alone risk-adjusted returns as well as the benefit of hedging inflation for the broader plans. Real return strategies are not necessarily a separate asset class but may include real assets, such as infrastructure, real estate, commodities, and natural resources among others, as well as financial assets that have a positive correlation to inflation. This can include "real" bonds such as TIPs (and other inflation linkers) or "real" stocks such as REITs, MLPs, and oil & gas stocks. Additionally, real return managers may attempt to add value by tactically allocating to various



asset classes according to how each asset class performs across an economic cycle and the manager's perception of where we are in the cycle. The goal is to invest in inflation sensitive assets during inflationary periods, and avoid those assets in deflationary periods, thus providing a positive real return across the cycle.

The real return opportunity set may include numerous vehicles to access a wide variety of investment styles and strategies. These investment vehicles may include mutual funds, ETFs, separately managed accounts as well as hedge funds (open-end limited partnerships) and private equity (close-end limited partnerships). The list of strategies that the KRS Real Return Portfolio may use includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- **GTAA (Global Tactical Asset Allocation)/ Global Macro:** GTAA or macro strategies are those that make directional bets on major markets or asset classes instead of individual securities. GTAA and macro strategies typically invest in all major assets classes including equity markets, credit and debt instruments, currencies/interest rates, and commodities. These strategies tend to focus on economic factors that would suggest an opportune time to invest in a given asset class, and will change their allocations actively over time. Within a real return portfolio, these strategies may use inflation as the economic factor to gain exposure to and will target a real rate of return over time.
- **Inflation Linked Securities** are securities that directly tie coupon payments or principal increases to an inflation index, such as CPI. These strategies could include not only US TIPs, but also global sovereign inflation linked bonds, corporate or infrastructure inflation linked bonds, and possibly short duration floating rate bonds.
- **Inflation Sensitive Equities** include publicly traded equity and equity related securities in companies which have a high sensitivity to inflation in their profit margins via the nature of their operating assets, such as energy companies, basic materials and miners, natural resource stocks, and listed infrastructure. This category can also include REITs, MLPs as well as ETFs and index products on REITS, MLPs, natural resource stocks, etc.
- **Commodities:** Commodities are the raw materials that are physical inputs into the production process. Managers that invest in liquid commodity strategies using exchange traded futures can span from simple indexing (matching a long-only commodities index), to enhanced indexing or active long (selecting positions that vary from the index but within fairly tight ranges), as well as unconstrained long-short managers.
- **Private Property:** For the purposes of this policy, private property refers to the ownership of an idiosyncratic, physical asset that is predominately fixed and/or permanent or at least substantially long-lived. This includes real estate, such as land and any improvements to or on the land, as well as timberland and farmland. Timberland investing involves the institutional ownership of forest for the purpose of growing and harvesting the timber. The timber may be used for furniture, housing lumber, flooring, pulp for paper, woodchips, and charcoal, among other things. Farmland investing entails ownership of land used primarily if not exclusively for agricultural production both for crops, including row crops and permanent crops, as well as livestock. Private property can also include infrastructure investing, which refers to financing the manufacture or development of the underlying fundamental

assets and basic systems that are necessary for an economy whereby such assets are largely fixed and long-lived. These tend to be high cost, capital intensive investments that are vital to a society's prosperity and facilitate the transfer, distribution, or production of basic goods and services.

- **Natural Resources:** Natural resources can include investing in the financing, development, extraction, and production of minerals, basic materials, petroleum products, and water as well as renewable resources such as agricultural commodities and solar energy. As opposed to property, the returns generated in these investment strategies come more from the actual production of the resource itself. Further, these are depleting and/or consumable assets that are also portable and fungible and which in the aggregate comprise a majority of the inputs into most measurements of inflation.
- **Private Assets:** Private assets can include tangible or intangible assets that are not easily sold in the regular course of a business's operations for cash, and which are held for their role in contributing directly to the business's ability to generate profit. As the useful life of the asset tends to extend across many years and the assets tend to be capital intensive as well, they have some similarity to private infrastructure. Further, given that the assets contribute directly to the production process as well as often retaining intrinsic value, there is a fundamental link to inflation somewhat similar to natural resources.
- **Other (Opportunistic Inflation Hedge):** Other/opportunistic strategies include those that have a propensity to provide a positive real return or positive correlation with inflation over time. Liquid strategies such as inflation swaps, diversified inflation hedging mutual funds, or nominal bonds backed by inflation sensitive assets may be included in this allocation, while other illiquid strategies that may provide the same real profile can include private equity in inflation sensitive companies, hard asset-backed private credit, and structured inflation-linked products among others.

The Real Return allocation shall seek to achieve the following:

- 1) **Short-term benchmark:** For periods less than five years or a full market cycle, the allocation should achieve an annual rate of return that exceeds the appropriate benchmark (the weighted average return of the underlying investment benchmarks) annually over a complete market cycle, net of all investment management fees.
- 2) **Strategic benchmark:** For periods greater than five years or a full market cycle, the allocation should not only outperform the short-term benchmark, but also achieve a rate of return that exceeds the appropriate long-term benchmark (CPI + 300 basis points) as well.

### **Portfolio Guidelines**

No more than 35% of the total net assets of the Real Return portfolio may be invested in any one registered investment vehicle, mutual fund, or separately managed account.

No more than 15% of the total net assets of the Real Return portfolio may be invested in any single closed-end or open-end limited partnership or other unregistered investment vehicle.

No investment in any commingled open-ended limited partnership may account for more than 20% of the net assets in that limited partnership.

No investment with any one single manager may account for more than 25% of that manager's total assets under management.

Policy allocations and ranges for strategies in the Real Return portfolio as a whole are as below.

The liquid real assets portfolio will be diversified according to the following strategy allocations:

<b>Liquid Real Assets Portfolio</b>	<b>Allocation Targets</b>	<b>Range</b>
GTAA/Global Macro	35.0%	15% to 40%
Inflation Linked Securities	30.0%	15% to 40%
Natural Resource Equities	20.0%	5% to 30%
Commodities	15.0%	0% to 25%
Opportunistic liquid	0.0%	0% to 10%

The illiquid real assets portfolio will be diversified according to the following strategy allocations:

<b>Illiquid Real Assets Portfolio</b>	<b>Allocation Targets</b>	<b>Range</b>
Property	20.0%	0% to 35%
Natural Resources	45.0%	15% to 65%
Private Assets	25.0%	0% to 35%
Opportunistic illiquid	10.0%	0% to 20%

The relative allocations to the liquid and illiquid portfolios will be determined according to each individual plan's liquidity needs, funding status, and allocation targets on an investment by investment basis. However, no plan shall invest more than 50% of the Real Assets Allocation into the Illiquid Real Assets Portfolio.

Further, in order to ensure sufficient diversification by investment style, the Illiquid Real Asset Portfolio as a whole will be diversified according to style allocations below:



<b>Style Allocations</b>	<b>Allocation Targets</b>	<b>Range</b>
Core	40.0%	25% to 50%
Value Add	30.0%	20% to 40%
Opportunistic	30.0%	20% to 40%

#### G. Cash Equivalent Securities

Selection of particular short-term instruments, whether viewed as liquidity reserves or as investment vehicles, should be determined primarily by the safety and liquidity of the investment and only secondarily by the available yield. The following short-term investment vehicles are considered acceptable:

Publicly traded investment grade corporate bonds, variable rate demand notes, government and agency bonds, mortgages, municipal bonds, and collective STIFs, money market funds or instruments (including, but not limited to, certificates of deposit, bank notes, deposit notes, bankers' acceptances and commercial paper) and repurchase agreements relating to the above instruments. Instruments may be selected from among those having an investment grade rating at the time of purchase by at least one recognized bond rating service. In cases where the instrument has a split rating, the lower of the two ratings shall prevail. All instruments shall have a maturity at the time of purchase that does not exceed two years. Repurchase agreements shall be deemed to have a maturity equal to the period remaining until the date on which the repurchase of the underlying securities is scheduled to occur. Variable rate securities shall be deemed to have a maturity equal to the time left until the next interest rate reset occurs, but in no case will any security have a stated final maturity of more than three years.

The Systems' fixed income managers that utilize cash equivalent securities as an integral part of their investment strategy are exempt from the permissible investments contained in the preceding paragraph. Permissible short-term investments for fixed income managers shall be included in the investment manager's investment guidelines.

#### H. Absolute Return Strategies

The purpose of the Absolute Return Portfolio is to identify strategies that provide both favorable stand-alone risk-adjusted returns as well as the benefit of diversification for the overall plan. Absolute return strategies, by definition, are not necessarily a separate asset class, but broaden the opportunity set within existing asset classes such as stocks, bonds, currencies and commodities by going both long and short, employing derivatives and leverage, shortening and extending investment horizons, and moving across public and private markets, amongst others. By focusing on the idiosyncratic risks of security selection and often attempting to minimize systematic market risks through hedging activities, absolute return managers can make investment decisions unconstrained by restrictive relative benchmarks such as the S&P 500 or Barclay's Aggregate Bond Index, and add value to portfolios by achieving favorable risk-adjusted returns in most market environments while also reducing overall plan volatility.

The absolute return opportunity set is generally considered to include hedge funds and other strategies attempting to achieve positive returns without heavy reliance on the assumption of traditional

systematic risk factors. Investment vehicles used to access this opportunity set can include limited partnerships, but also mutual funds, ETFs, and separately managed accounts, amongst others. Absolute return strategies are extremely heterogeneous, as managers have both greater variability within a strategy and the flexibility to evolve across styles and asset classes. This is a key benefit of absolute return; however, it also makes strategy classifications less meaningful and manager selection significantly more important. It also necessitates relatively broader allowable strategy ranges than in other more traditional asset classes.

The list of strategies that the KRS Absolute Return Portfolio may utilize includes, but is not limited to:

- **Equity Strategies:** Equity based hedge funds are those which primarily purchase listed stocks, long and short, using no to substantial leverage. These strategies may differ across multiple styles such as broad or sector based mandates, geographically focused or global, concentrated versus diversified, long biased or market neutral, or short term trading versus longer term fundamental. Sub-strategies in this category would include fundamental long/short equity, short bias, tactical trading, and equity market neutral.
- **Event Driven:** Event driven strategies also invest in the securities of corporate issuers, including stocks and corporate bonds. However, these strategies will invest based upon specific corporate actions that will change the value of these securities including mergers, spin-offs, tender and exchange offers and bankruptcy or restructuring. These strategies can be flexible across equity/credit, long/short as well as other style characteristics noted earlier. Another critical differentiator among event driven strategies is whether they pursue primarily hard versus soft catalysts. Examples of sub-strategies in this category include merger arbitrage, shareholder activism, multi-strategy event, special situations, and opportunistic value/soft catalyst.
- **Credit Strategies:** Credit strategies are those which focus on the debt side of the capital structure. They may have equity exposure, but the vast majority of the portfolio is invested in credit securities. Similarly, these strategies may be long biased or more hedged, may be more fundamentally based or more quantitative, focus on paying versus non-performing, and shorter term trading versus longer term focused. However, some funds may be focused on structured credit markets, including RMBS and CMBS, and others may move opportunistically across various credit segments. Sub-strategies may include long/short corporate credit, structured credit, and distressed securities.
- **Relative Value:** Relative Value strategies are those that do not invest in the intrinsic value of any individual security, but rather research the historical and/or mechanical relationships between related securities and invest in the spread. For example, they may bet on one bond being overvalued relative to another bond from the same issuer. These strategies are almost always market neutral, but may vary from moderately to highly leveraged, concentrated versus diversified, or from HFT (high frequency trading) to a longer term investment horizon. Examples of sub-strategies in this category include fixed income arbitrage, convertible arbitrage, and statistical arbitrage.

- **Multi-Strategies:** Multi-Strategy hedge funds are those which will actively employ several of the other major hedge fund categories. Typically, hedge funds may do more than one thing, but to be a true multi-strategy, a hedge fund must have meaningful allocations of capital to at least 3 of the other four major categories: equity, credit/event, relative value, and macro/CTA. A true multi-strategy hedge fund should not have 50% to 70% of NAV invested in one strategy or 50% to 70% of the historical return attribution from one strategy. Finally, most multi-strategy hedge funds have their roots in one specific style and have evolved into multi-strategies over time.
- **Global Macro:** Macro strategies are those that make directional bets on major markets or asset classes instead of individual securities. Global macro funds are typically diversified across 3 of the 4 major liquid markets: equity indices, credit/debt, currencies/rates, and commodities. These strategies are often quantitative or discretionary, or shorter term/market timing versus longer term/macroeconomic focused. Finally, some traders may focus largely on certain markets, such as rates or currencies, trading on fundamental economic signals.
- **CTA/Commodity/Currency:** Managed Futures or CTAs will trade the same markets as global macro funds (i.e. equity indices, debt markets, currencies, and commodities) but will focus heavily on price or other technical signals, instead of fundamental or economic data. CTAs tend to be purely systematic (black-box) or discretionary, shorter to longer term and will employ either trend following/momentum strategies or counter-trend/ mean reversion. Similar to macro funds, some CTAs focus purely on certain markets, such as commodities or currencies.
- **Other:** Strategies in this category, sometimes referred to as alternatives to alternatives, tend to be the most highly uncorrelated strategies. These may not be true “alpha” generators, as they often are simply accessing extremely unique and non-competitive markets, looking to harvest systemic risk premia found in these markets. However, the “betas” they are accessing are truly idiosyncratic. These strategies are much smaller and tend to have a bit higher illiquidity than other hedge funds. Examples of sub-strategies that fall in this category would be intellectual property, weather risk, and insurance strategies.

The Absolute Return allocation shall seek to achieve the following.

- 1) **Short-term benchmark:** For periods less than five years or a full market cycle, the allocation should achieve an annual rate of return that exceeds the appropriate benchmark (HFRI Diversified Fund of Fund Composite), net of all investment management fees, with similar risk relative to the benchmark.
- 2) **Strategic benchmark:** For periods greater than five years or a full market cycle, the allocation should not only outperform the short-term benchmark, but also achieve a rate of return that exceeds the appropriate long-term benchmark (1 Year Treasury Bill Rate + 500 basis points) as well.



### Portfolio Guidelines

No more than 10% of the total net assets of the Absolute Return portfolio may be invested in any one single manager hedge fund. No more than 15% of the total net assets of the Absolute Return portfolio may be invested in any one single separately managed account, mutual fund, or other registered investment vehicle.

No more than 15% of the total net assets of the Absolute Return portfolio allocation may be invested with any one single hedge fund manager (excluding Funds of Funds). No more than 25% of the net assets of the Absolute Return portfolio allocation may be invested with any one single investment manager (excluding Funds of Funds).

No investment in any commingled open-ended limited partnership may account for more than 20% of the net assets in that limited partnership.

No investment with any one single manager may account for more than 25% of that manager's total assets under management (including Funds of Funds).

Policy allocations and ranges for the strategies in the Absolute Return allocation as a whole are:

	Allocation Targets	Range
Equity Strategies	15.0%	5.0% to 35.0%
Event Driven Strategies	15.0%	5.0% to 35.0%
Credit Strategies	15.0%	5.0% to 35.0%
Relative Value Strategies	15.0%	5.0% to 35.0%
Multi-Strategies	10.0%	5.0% to 35.0%
Global Macro	15.0%	3.5% to 30.0%
CTA/Commodity/Currency	10.0%	1.5% to 20.0%
Other	5.0%	0% to 15%

As the Absolute Return allocation can invest in various investment vehicles and strategies with differing liquidity profiles, it is important to consider liquidity as a separate risk spectrum. In order to manage the portfolio and provide the system liquidity as necessary, but remain flexible enough to capture returns available in moderately illiquid opportunities, the Absolute Return allocation will adhere to the following liquidity targets:

At all times, at least 25.0% of the Absolute Return portfolio as a whole is to be available in quarterly or better liquidity vehicles.

At all times, no more than 50.0% of the Absolute Return portfolio as a whole is to be committed to vehicles that provide liquidity on a greater than annual basis.

No investments to vehicles with a greater than 3 year lock-up are permitted in the Absolute Return portfolio.

## IX. Standards of Measurement

### Performance Measurement

The Kentucky Retirement Systems (“KRS”) overall fund performance is measured relative to the KRS Pension or Insurance Total Fund Benchmark. The benchmark is calculated by means of a weighted average methodology. This method is consistent with industry-wide standards and the practices utilized by the CFA Institute. It is the product of the various component weights (i.e., asset classes’ percentages) by their respective performance (returns). Due to market fluctuations and acceptable divergence, the asset classes’ weights (percentages) are often not equivalent to the benchmark’s weights. Therefore, the performance may indicate that the Funds have outperformed (underperformed) relative to their respective benchmarks, even when the preponderance of lesser weighted categories have underperformed (outperformed) their indices.

KRS measures its asset classes, sub-asset classes, sectors, strategies, portfolios, and instruments (investment) performance with indexes that are recognized and published (e.g., S&P 500 & Barclays Aggregate Bond Index). These indices are determined to be appropriate measures of investments and composites of investments with identical or similar investments profiles, characteristics, and strategies. The benchmarks and indexes are intended to be objective, investable, replicable, representative and measurable of the investment mandate and, developed from publicly available information that is acceptable to KRS and the investment manager/advisor as the neutral position consistent with the underlying investor status. KRS’ investment consultant and staff recommend the benchmarks and indexes. These measures shall be subject to the annual review and approval of the KRS Investment Committee and ratification of the Kentucky Retirement Systems’ Board of Trustees.

The KRS Total Fund Benchmarks and sub-components, indexes, are described in Appendix A and B of this document.

The following descriptions represent general standards of measurement that will be used as guidelines for the various classes of investments and managers of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. They are to be computed and expressed on a time-weighted total return basis:

#### Total Public Asset Class Allocations

##### Short-term

- For periods less than five years or a full market cycle, the Asset Class Allocation should exceed the returns of the appropriate Index.

##### Intermediate & Long-term

- For periods greater than five years or one market cycle, the Asset Class Allocation should exceed the appropriate Index, compare favorably on a risk-adjusted basis, and generate returns that rank above the median return of a relevant peer group.

Volatility, as measured by the standard deviation of monthly returns, should be comparable to the Index.

*Individual Public Security Portfolios:* Individual portfolios shall be assigned a market goal or benchmark that is representative of the style or market capitalization of the assignment. Individual accounts should be monitored using the following Standards:

**Short-term**

- For periods less than five years or a full market cycle, individual portfolios should exceed the returns of their market goal or benchmark.

**Intermediate & Long-term**

- For periods greater than five years or one market cycle, individual portfolios should exceed the return of their market goal or benchmark, compare favorably on a risk-adjusted basis, and generate returns that rank above the median return of a relevant peer group. Volatility, as measured by the standard deviation of monthly returns, should be comparable to the benchmark.

**Alternative Assets:**

In addition to exceeding the appropriate benchmark listed in Appendix A and B, the Alternative portfolio should also seek to achieve the following:

**Short-term**

- Alternative investments should earn a Net IRR that place the investment above the median Net IRR of other similar funds, of the same vintage year, as reported by Venture Economics.

**Intermediate & Long-term**

- The private equity portfolio should earn a return that meets or exceeds the KRS Private Equity Index. Individual private equity investments should earn a Net IRR above the median Net IRR of other similar funds, of the same vintage year, as reported by Venture Economics.



### Real Estate

The Total Real Estate allocation of the fund shall be benchmarked to the appropriate benchmark and are listed in Appendix A and B.

In addition, target returns for value added investments should be 9% to 12% per year (net of fees and promoted interest). Target returns for Opportunistic investments should be in excess of 12% (net of fees and promoted interest) in order to compensate for the additional risk commensurate with the increased risk compared to core property investments.

### Real Return

The total Real Return allocation shall seek to :

- (1) Achieve a rate of return that exceeds the appropriate benchmark annually over a complete market cycle (historically 3-5 years), net of all investment management fees.
- (2) Achieve a rate of return that exceeds the appropriate real return composite index over a complete market cycle (historically 3-5 years), net of all investment management fees.
- (3) Achieve a positive risk/reward trade-off when compared to similar style real return Investment Managers.

### Absolute Returns

The total Absolute Return allocation shall seek to :

- (1) Achieve a rate of return that exceeds the appropriate benchmark annually over a complete market cycle (historically 3-5 years), net of all investment management fees.
- (2) Achieve a positive risk/reward trade-off when compared to similar style FOF return Investment Managers.

## X. Investments Performance Review Procedures

On a timely basis, but not less than quarterly, the Investment Committee, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, will review the performance of the portfolio for determination of compliance with this Statement of Investment Policy. On an annual basis, a comprehensive review of each asset class and underlying portfolios shall be conducted by the staff and presented to the Investment Committee. The review shall consist of an organizational, performance and compliance assessment.

The Compliance Officer shall perform tests each month to assure compliance with the restrictions imposed by this policy. These tests shall be performed at the asset class and total fund level. Quarterly, the Compliance Officer shall prepare a report to the Investment Committee detailing the restrictions tested, exceptions, the cause of the exception and the subsequent resolution. The Investment Committee shall report the findings to the Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The following restrictions shall be tested monthly:

- ▶ The amount of stock in the domestic or international equity allocation in any single corporation shall not exceed 5% of the aggregate market value of the Systems' assets.
- ▶ The amount of stock held in the domestic or international equity allocation shall not exceed 3% of the outstanding shares of any single corporation.
- ▶ The amount of stock in any one industry in the domestic equity allocation shall not exceed 10% of the aggregate market value of the Systems' assets.
- ▶ Investment in "frontier" markets (those countries not included in the MSCI EM Index) shall not exceed 5% of the System's international equity assets.
- ▶ The duration of the total fixed income portfolio shall not deviate from the KRS Fixed Income Index by more than 25%.
- ▶ The duration of the TIPS portfolio shall not deviate from the KRS TIPS benchmark by more than 10%.
- ▶ The amount invested in the debt of a single issuer shall not exceed 5% of the total market value of the Systems' assets, with the exception of U.S. Government issued, guaranteed or agency obligations (or securities collateralized by same), and derivative securities used for exposure, cost efficiency, or risk management purposes in compliance with Section VII of this policy.
- ▶ The amount invested in SEC Rule 144a securities shall not exceed 15% of the market value of the aggregate market value of the Systems' fixed income investments.

The Chief Investment Officer shall develop a comprehensive set of investment guidelines for each externally managed account. These guidelines should ensure, at the total fund and asset class level, that the restrictions set forth above are preserved. The Compliance Officer shall perform tests each month to assure compliance with the guidelines. Quarterly, the Compliance Officer shall prepare a report to the Investment Committee detailing the restrictions tested, exceptions, the cause of the exception and the subsequent resolution. The Investment Committee shall report the findings to the Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting

## XI. Additional Items

The KRS Board recognizes that the voting of proxies is an important responsibility in assuring the overall performance of the Fund over a long time horizon. The Board has delegated the responsibility of voting all proxies to an outside Proxy Voting service provider or contracted external investment manager. The Board expects that the proxy voting service will execute all proxies in a timely fashion, and in accordance with the voting policy which has been formally adopted.

The Board has adopted the ISS U.S. Proxy Voting Guidelines as the System's approved Proxy Voting Policy for all internally voted items. This policy is updated at least annually by ISS and hereby incorporated by this reference. The policy can be found publically using the following link:

<http://www.issgovernance.com/files/2012USSummaryGuidelines1312012.pdf>

A. Brokerage Policy dated May 2011



The Investment Committee brokerage policy is hereby incorporated by reference.

B. Transactions Procedures Policy dated August 2011

The Investment Committee transaction procedures are hereby incorporated by reference.

C. Securities Litigation Policy and Procedures dated May 2011

The Investment Committee securities litigation policy and procedures are hereby incorporated by reference.

D. Securities Lending Guidelines dated May 2011

The Investment Committee securities lending policy and procedures are hereby incorporated by reference.

E. Securities Trading Policy for Trustees and Employees dated February 2012


F. Manager and Placement Agent Statement of Disclosure Policy dated August 2012

#### Signatories

As Adopted by the Investment Committee

Date: November 20, 2013

Signature:

  
Dr. Daniel L. Bauer

Chair, Investment Committee

As Adopted by the Board of Trustees

Date: December 5, 2013

Signature:

  
Randy J. Overstreet

Chair, Board of Trustees





## Kentucky Retirement Systems

### Appendix A: Addendum to the Statement of Investment Policy Pension Fund – Asset Allocation / Benchmark Composite Effective January 1, 2013

This addendum to the investment policy is issued by the Board of Trustees of Kentucky Retirement Systems (Systems) in connection with investing the pension funds of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement System and the State Police Retirement System. This document supersedes all prior documents entitled Addendum to the Statement of Investment Policy.

#### I. Asset Allocation with Benchmarks

KRS Pension Fund - Asset Allocation							
Asset Class	Benchmark	Target					Allowable Range (+/- Target)
		KERS	KERS Hazardous	CERS	CERS Hazardous	SPRS	
US Equity	Russell 3000	22.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	5.0%
Non US Equity	MSCI ACWI Ex-US Standard	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	5.0%
Emerging Market	MSCI Emerging Markets	0.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	2.0%
Core Fixed Income	Barclays US Aggregate	10.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	8.0%	3.0%
High Yield Bonds	Barclays US High Yield	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	2.0%
Global Bonds	Barclays Global Agg	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	2.0%
Real Estate	NCREIF ODCE	3.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	3.0%
Absolute Return	HFRI Diversified FOF	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
Real Return	CPI + 300 bps	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
Private Equity	Russell 3000 + 400 bps (lagged)	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Cash	Cit Grp 3-mos Treasury Bill	5.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	3.0%	2.0

#### II. Total Fund Blended Benchmark Composite

Pension Fund Composite		
US Equity	Russell 3000	20.5%
Non US Equity	MSCI ACWI Ex-US Standard	20.0%
Emerging Market	MSCI Emerging Markets	2.9%
Fixed Income	Barclays Universal Index	19.3%
Real Estate	NCREIF ODCE	4.5%
Absolute Return	HFRI Diversified FOF	10.0%
Real Return	CPI + 300 bps	10.0%
Private Equity	Russell 3000 (lagged 1 qtr) + 400 bps	10.0%
Cash	Cit Grp 3-mos Treasury Bill	2.8%

At the November 3, 2011 Investment Committee meeting Staff was authorized to combine Public and Private Equity targets and exposures to help manage portfolio risks caused by the unintended overweight to Private Equity, which is caused by the denominator effect over time.

#### Signatories

As Adopted by the Investment Committee  
Date: September 19, 2012

Signature:   
Dr. Daniel L. Bauer  
Chair, Investment Committee

As Adopted by the Board of Trustees  
Date: October 5, 2012

Signature:   
Thomas K. Elliott  
Chair, Board of Trustees





**Kentucky Retirement Systems**  
**Appendix B: Addendum to the Statement of Investment Policy**  
**Insurance Fund – Asset Allocation / Benchmark Composite**  
**Effective January 1, 2013**

This addendum to the investment policy is issued by the Board of Trustees of Kentucky Retirement Systems (Systems) in connection with investing the insurance funds of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the County Employees Retirement System and the State Police Retirement System. This document supersedes all prior documents entitled Addendum to the Statement of Investment Policy.

**I. Asset Allocation with Benchmarks**

KRS Insurance Fund - Asset Allocation							
Asset Class	Benchmark	Target					Allowable Range (+/- Target)
		KERS	KERS Hazardous	CERS	CERS Hazardous	SPRS	
US Equity	Russell 3000	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	5.0%
Non US Equity	MSCI ACWI Ex-US Standard	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	5.0%
Emerging Market	MSCI Emerging Markets	4.0	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	2.0%
Core Fixed Income	Barclays US Aggregate	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
High Yield Bonds	Barclays US High Yield	5.0	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	2.0%
Global Bonds	Barclays Global Agg	5.0	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	2.0%
Real Estate	NCREIF ODCE	5.0	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	3.0%
Absolute Return	HFRI Diversified FOF	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
Real Return	CPI + 300 bps*	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	3.0%
Private Equity	Russell 3000 + 400 bps (lagged)	10.0-	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Cash	Cit Grp 3-mos Treasury Bill	1.0	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	2.0

\*KERS 20% allocation to Real Return includes a 15% dedicated allocation to US TIPS, thus the benchmark for KERS is CPI +250 bps.


**II. Total Fund Blended Benchmark Composite**

Insurance Fund Composite		
US Equity	Russell 3000	20.0%
Non US Equity	MSCI ACWI Ex-US Standard	20.0%
Emerging Market	MSCI Emerging Markets	4.0%
Fixed Income	Barclays Universal Index	20.0%
Real Estate	NCREIF ODCE	5.0%
Absolute Return	HFRI Diversified FOF	10.0%
Real Return	CPI + 300 bps	10.0%
Private Equity	Russell 3000 (lagged 1 qtr) + 400 bps	10.0%
Cash	Cit Grp 3-mos Treasury Bill	1.0%

At the November 3, 2011 Investment Committee meeting Staff was authorized to combine Public and Private Equity targets and exposures to help manage portfolio risks caused by the unintended overweight to Private Equity, which is caused by the denominator effect over time.

**Signatories**

As Adopted by the Investment Committee  
 Date: September 19, 2012

Signature:   
 Dr. Daniel L. Bauer  
 Chair, Investment Committee

As Adopted by the Board of Trustees  
 Date: October 5, 2012

Signature:   
 Thomas K. Elliott  
 Chair, Board of Trustees

**ATTACHMENT II**

Portfolio Guidelines

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## KENTUCKY RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Investment Guidelines for  
**Lazard Asset Management**  
International Strategic Equity Plus

**LAZARD**  
ASSET MANAGEMENT

### PURPOSE

These investment guidelines represent an extension of the Statement of Investment Policy for the Kentucky Retirement Systems ("KRS").

### INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

1. The overall goal of the International Strategic Equity Plus portfolio is to provide a source of non-U.S. exposure to the funds of KRS, while exceeding the market return in a manner that is consistent with the volatility exhibited by the MSCI All Country World Index ex-US benchmark ("Market Benchmark").
2. The portfolio shall be broadly diversified across sectors, industries, and securities in a manner that is consistent with accepted standards of prudence.
3. The portfolio shall be managed in accordance with the Statement of Investment Policy and the following performance objectives, guidelines and restrictions set forth in the following sections.

### KRS RETURN AND RISK OBJECTIVES

1. The return objectives of the portfolio are:
  - a. For 3 year rolling period, the portfolio should exceed the return of their market benchmark, compare favorably on a risk-adjusted basis, and generate returns that rank above the median return of a relevant peer group.
2. The risk objectives of the portfolio are:
  - a. Tracking error is expected to be no more than 6% under normal market conditions.

### GUIDELINES

1. Permitted Securities—
  - a. Common stocks and convertible securities of companies primarily operating within the international developed and emerging markets and may also include American Depository Receipts ("ADRs"), Global Depository Receipts ("GDRs"), International Depository Receipts, exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), closed-end investment companies, 144A securities, real estate investment trusts ("REITs") and REIT-like securities, preferred stock, corporate warrants, rights and debt instruments convertible into equity securities.
  - b. Cash or short-term cash equivalents denominated in domestic or foreign currencies including emerging markets currencies.
  - c. Notes, baskets or warrants which replicate the performance of an underlying security, index or market for which investment in the local market or in ADRs or GDRs would be difficult and/or costly.
  - d. Forward foreign currency contracts and currency futures for the purpose of hedging currency risk associated with securities in the account and in connection with the settlement of transactions. Forward foreign currency transactions may also be used where there are cash balances in the portfolio to maintain foreign currency exposure and for hedging currency exposure to the benchmark. Hedging is to be employed primarily as a defensive measure relative to the benchmark or the base currency.
  - e. The investment of Plan assets in the above-listed "Permitted Securities" indirectly through investment in interests in bank-maintained common or collective trust funds or other pooled

investment vehicles, of which the Plan is an eligible participant, including, subject to applicable law, such funds or vehicles for which the Advisor acts as investment adviser or sub-adviser.

2. Prohibited Investments/ Strategies—
  - a. Leverage (borrowing & borrowing on margin);
  - b. Derivatives (excluding currency forwards)
  - c. Short sales of common stock;
  - d. Loans;
  - e. Direct participations; and
  - f. Direct investments in real estate.
3. Equity portfolios are to be diversified to reduce the impact of large losses in individual investments in a manner that is at the discretion of the portfolio manager.
4. There are no specific restrictions regarding the rate of turnover in the portfolio. KRS will monitor the portfolio turnover levels and expects the Advisor to exercise prudent judgment when addressing the issue of portfolio turnover. The Advisor shall foremost seek to achieve “best execution” when transacting.

## **RESTRICTIONS**

### ***Asset Allocation***

- 1.) Portfolio is expected to be fully invested in eligible securities consistent with MSCI ACWI Ex-US equity mandates.
- 2.) Cash equivalents, not including cash held for investment yet to settle, shall not exceed 5% of the portfolio without prior written consent from KRS.
- 3.) Manager shall not hold emerging markets exposure that exceeds the market benchmark weight plus 15% at the time of any portfolio.

### ***Sector and Position Limits***

- 1) Manager shall not hold individual equity positions that exceed 5% of the portfolio's total market value.
- 2) Portfolio may not hold more than 3% of the outstanding shares of any single corporation or issuer of common stock.
- 3) Exchange-Traded Fund securities (ETFs) and government securities, while permitted, shall not represent more than 5% of the portfolio's total market value.
- 4) Manager shall not hold individual industry<sup>1</sup> exposures that exceed the market benchmark weight plus 10% at the time of any portfolio rebalance.
- 5) Manager shall not hold individual sector<sup>1</sup> exposures that exceed the greater of +15% the market benchmark weight, or 30% in any individual sector
- 6) Manager's cash holding, not including cash held for investments yet to settle, shall not exceed 5% of the portfolio's total market value.

<sup>1</sup> As defined by Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS). Sectors are measured using GICS level 1 and industries are measured using GICS level 2.

### ATTACHMENT III

#### Fee Schedule

Fees are paid quarterly in arrears upon submission of an invoice by Manager. Fees shall be computed on the basis of the average of the adjusted closing market value of assets as determined by the Master Custodian on the last business day of each month in the calendar quarter, in accordance with the following schedule;

The annual advisory fee for the portfolio is calculated as follows:


**NOTE:** For billing purposes, the average market value of assets for the Pension and Insurance Portfolio will be aggregated in order to calculate fees. Each account will be billed a pro-rated share of the fees based on the total average market value of assets invested by each account in the strategy.

If an investment strategy utilizes a commingled, pooled fund, mutual fund, money fund, or other vehicle which has a built in management fee, these fees will be identified and deducted dollar-for-dollar (but not below zero) from the advisory fee calculated using the Manager's Fee Schedule above. Any over-billing will be reimbursed to KRS Account immediately.

#### PRO-RATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS/WITHDRAWALS

Fees are calculated at the end of each calendar quarter on the basis of the average of the closing market value of assets on the last day of each month in the calendar quarter; provided however, that the market value shall be adjusted such that contributions and disbursements made during the quarter (and which constitute greater than 1 (one) percent of the total portfolio market value) shall be billed on a pro rata basis for the amount of time under management.

The **adjusted monthly market value** = month-end asset value adjusted for contributions or withdrawals made by KRS.

- (a) For **contributions to** the assets in the account after the first business day of a month, the adjusted ending assets will be determined by subtracting from the closing value of the account on the last business day of the month an amount equaling the product of (x) the quotient derived by dividing the amount of the contribution by the number of days in the month, and (y) the number of days from the beginning of the month to the transfer date.
- (b) For **withdrawals from** the account after the first business day of a month, the adjusted assets will be determined by adding to the closing value of the account on the last business day of the month an amount equaling the product of (x) the quotient derived by dividing the amount of the withdrawal by the number of days in the month, and (y) the number of days from the beginning of the month to the transfer date.



**ATTACHMENT IV**

Statement of Disclosure and Placement Agents

(Remainder of this page left blank intentionally.)



**Kentucky Retirement Systems**  
**Manager and Placement Agent Statement of Disclosure Policy**  
**Approved August 16, 2012**

### **I. Purpose**

This Policy sets forth the disclosure requirements which must be satisfied prior to any Kentucky Retirement Systems ("KRS") investment. This policy requires disclosure of conflicts of interest, political contributions, and whether or not a placement agent is involved with any new KRS investment among other things. KRS shall require the disclosure of detailed information regarding any Manager or Placement Agent used, their services, and payments and fees in connection with all KRS investments. This Policy is intended to apply broadly to all of the types of investment advisors with whom KRS conducts or potentially conducts business with including general partners, managers, investment managers and sponsors of hedge funds, funds of funds, private equity funds, real estate funds, infrastructure funds, as well as investment managers retained pursuant to a contract.

The goal of this Policy is to bring transparency to our investment management relationships and placement agent activity in connection with KRS' investments and to help ensure that KRS' investment decisions are made based solely on the merits of the investment opportunity and in a manner consistent with the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees and individuals who owe a fiduciary duty to KRS.

### **II. Objectives**

The objectives of this Kentucky Retirement Systems' policy are:

1. To ensure that KRS' investment decisions are consistent with KRS' overall Investment Policy Statements;
2. To supplement the due diligence and information available to KRS Board Members, Staff, and Consultants when evaluating an investment opportunity;
3. To prevent impropriety and/or the appearance of improprieties and to disclose conflicts of interest, and/or the appearances of conflicts of interest;
4. Provide transparency and confidence in KRS investment decision-making and process; and
5. Establish procedures to comply with state and federal law.

### **III. Application**

This Policy applies to all agreements with Managers that are entered into after the date this Policy is adopted. This Policy also applies to existing agreements with Managers if, after the date this Policy is adopted, the term of the agreement is extended, there is any increased commitment of funds by KRS pursuant to the existing agreement or there is a material amendment to the substantive terms of an existing agreement, including the fees or compensation payable to the Manager.

## IV Definitions

### **KRS Vehicle**

A partnership, limited liability company, account or other investment vehicle in which KRS is the investor.

### **Consultant**

Consultant refers to individuals or firms, and includes Key Personnel of Consultant firms, who are contractually retained or have been contracted by KRS to provide investment advice to KRS but who do not exercise investment discretion.

### **Manager**

An asset management firm that is seeking to be, or has been, retained by KRS or by a KRS Vehicle to manage a portfolio of assets (including securities and or contracts, etc) for a fee. The Manager usually has full discretion to manage KRS assets, consistent with investment management guidelines provided by KRS and fiduciary responsibility.

### **Executive Agency Lobbyist (EAL)**

Any person engaged to influence executive agency decisions or to conduct executive agency lobbying activity as one (1) of his main purposes on a substantial basis.

(b) "Executive agency lobbyist" does not include an elected or appointed officer or employee of a federal or state agency, state college, state university, or political subdivision who attempts to influence or affect executive agency decisions in his fiduciary capacity as a representative of his agency, college, university, or political subdivision.

### **Executive Agency Lobbying Activity**

Any contacts made to promote, oppose, or otherwise influence the outcome of an executive agency decision by direct communication with an elected executive official, the secretary of any cabinet listed in KRS 12.250, any executive agency official, or a member of the staff of any one of the officials listed in this paragraph.

### **Placement Agent**

Placement Agents exist because, with the exception of the largest firms (i.e., private equity and hedge fund general partnerships), many of these investment managers are not equipped to raise their investment funds independently. They require services such as crafting presentations, drafting, proofing and distributing private placement memorandums, sorting the potential universe of limited partners and determining how to access those limited partners, arranging meetings with the limited partners, handling follow-up meetings, assisting in the due diligence process including managing on-site due diligence meetings, and the closing process.

A Placement Agent is any 3<sup>rd</sup> party person or entity hired, engaged or retained by or acting on behalf of an Manager or on behalf of another Placement Agent as a finder, solicitor, marketer, consultant, broker or other intermediary to raise money or investments from or to obtain access to KRS, directly or indirectly, including without limitation through a KRS Vehicle. A placement agent is by definition an executive agency lobbyist as defined in KRS 11A.201 (8)(a).

For clarity, persons employed directly by an organization (in a traditional employer/employee relationship) seeking to do business with KRS, is not considered a Placement Agent for purposes of this policy.



### **Real Party-In-Interest**

The person or organization on whose behalf the executive agency lobbyist is acting, if that person is not the employer. For example, if the ABC Corporation engages XYZ Consulting Company which, in turn, hires John Smith to influence decisions or conduct executive agency lobbying on behalf of ABC Corporation: (a) John Smith is the EAL; (b) XYZ Consulting Company is the employer; and (c) ABC Corporation is the "real party in interest".

## **V. Responsibilities:**

### **A. Manager's Responsibilities**

Prior to KRS investing with any manager, KRS Staff shall obtain a signed Manager and Placement Agent Disclosure Questionnaire from the investment manager. This form includes a statement as to whether or not the investment manager has used a placement agent in connection with the proposed KRS investment opportunity. It also includes conflict of interest disclosures and political contribution disclosures among other required information including but not limited to:

- The name of the placement agent
- The fee paid or payable to the placement agent
- Representation that the fee is the sole obligation of the investment manager and not that of KRS or the limited partnership
- Current or former Kentucky Officials (federal, state, and local government), KRS Board of Trustees members, KRS employees, or consultants to KRS that are receiving any fees or compensation from the Manager and/or placement agent
- The names of any current or former Kentucky elected or appointed government officials (federal, state, and local government) KRS Board of Trustees members, employees, or consultants of KRS, or any other person, if any, who suggested the retention of the placement agent
- Evidence of the regulatory agencies, if any, in any Federal, state or foreign jurisdiction the placement agent or any of its affiliates are registered with, such as the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), FINRA, or any similar regulatory agency
- A resume for each officer, partner or principal of the Placement Agent detailing the person's education, professional designations, regulatory licenses and investment and work experience
- A description of the services to be performed by the Placement Agent
- A statement whether the Placement Agent, or any of its affiliates, is registered as a lobbyist with any and all Kentucky state and local (county) governments
- A statement by the Manager and/or placement agent representing and warranting the accuracy of the information provided to KRS regarding the Statement of Disclosure in any final written agreement with a continuing obligation to update any such information within 10 business days of any change in the information.

The manager shall notify the placement agent of his or her obligations under KRS Chapter 11A.

Compliance with the following procedures is the responsibility of the Manager, the Executive Agency Lobbyist and the Placement Agent. KRS Staff is not responsible for ensuring compliance with the following procedures as Staff is not a party to the process.

The following is a description of the process external persons should follow to comply with Kentucky's Executive Agency Lobbyist registration procedures:

1. Prior to contact with KRS personnel the Placement Agent, Employer, and, if applicable, Real Party in Interest, is required to file jointly, the Initial Registration Statement Form\* with the Kentucky Executive Branch Ethics Commission (EBEC) and furnish a copy to KRS.

Questions as to the process or applicability should be addressed to:

Executive Branch Ethics Commission (502) 564-7954.

2. After Initial Registration, the Placement Agent, Employer, and, if applicable, Real Party in Interest, is required to abide by the EBEC *Requirements After Registration* by filing an Updated Registration Statement\*\* annually (Due by July 31) with the EBEC and furnish a copy to KRS.
3. If the Placement Agent, Employer, and, if applicable, Real Party in Interest, wishes to terminate their lobbying effort they must notify the EBEC within 30 days after the termination of engagement by filling out the Termination Notification Form \*\*\* attaching it to the executive agency lobbyists final Updated Registration Statement form\*\* and furnishing a copy to KRS.

\* Initial Registration Statement Form is available at:  
<http://ethics.ky.gov/lobbying/Pages/Registration.aspx>

\*\* Updated Registration Statement Forms are available at:  
<http://ethics.ky.gov/lobbying/Pages/RequirementsAfterRegistration.aspx>

\*\*\* Termination Notification Form is Available at:  
<http://ethics.ky.gov/lobbying/Pages/howToTerminate.aspx>

In the event a Placement Agent is expected to receive remuneration for a KRS investment, KRS Staff will notify the Investment Committee in the memorandum discussing the recommended/approved investment. If a manager breaches this Policy, Staff will notify the Investment Committee as soon as practicable.

#### **B. KRS Staff Responsibilities**

KRS Staff are responsible for:

- Providing the public with disclosure by posting a copy of this Policy on KRS' website
- Implementing this Policy on behalf of KRS with each Division Director responsible for their specific asset class
- Providing regular disclosure updates to the KRS Investment Committee and the Board of Trustees.

All parties responsible for implementing, monitoring and complying with this Policy shall consider the spirit as well as the literal expression of the Policy.

## VI. Conflict of Interest

All persons and entities contracting with KRS shall certify that:

- they are legally capable of entering into a binding contract and authorized to do so;
- that they are not nor shall be in violation of any Kentucky law, statute or regulation pertaining to a conflict of interest including, but not limited to, KRS 121.056; and
- that they are not nor shall be in violation of any provision of KRS Chapter 11A or any regulation promulgated thereunder, or any law or regulation pertaining to the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance and the reporting requirements thereof.

All persons and entities seeking to or actually contracting with KRS shall disclose all relationships and potential conflicts of interest with any KRS Staff, Committee or Board Member. Any disclosed conflicts of interest will be discussed at the Investment Committee as to the severity of the conflict and the appropriate resolution. Options the Investment Committee might recommend include but are not limited to: no action required; conflicted party abstention; and refusal to invest. Subsequent discovery of any undisclosed conflict may be considered a breach of contract and may result in immediate termination of any agreements without penalty or fee to KRS.

### Signatories

As Adopted By The Investment Committee

Date: August 7, 2012

Signature: Dr. Daniel Bauer  
Dr. Daniel Bauer

As Adopted By The Board of Trustees

Date: August 16, 2012

Signature: Thomas K. Elliott  
Mr. Thomas K. Elliott



**ATTACHMENT V**

**Compliance Certificate**

As a duly authorized officer of \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Investment Manager"), I hereby certify that I am familiar with that certain Investment Management Agreement dated \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ (the "Agreement") between Kentucky Retirement Systems and the Investment Manager relating to investment of certain KRS assets by the Investment Manager. In addition, to the best of my knowledge after diligent inquiry, I hereby certify to KRS that:

- (a) All investments of the KRS assets made by the Investment Manager during the year ending December 31, \_\_\_\_\_, were made within applicable Investment Policy and Procedures incorporated in the Agreement at the time each investment was made, except as set forth below;
- (b) All current investment holdings in the portfolio managed by the Investment Manager are in compliance with the Investment Policy and Procedures currently applicable under the Agreement, except as set forth below;
- (c) During the year ending December 31, \_\_\_\_\_, no member of the KRS Board of Trustees, or key staff of KRS, and no person claiming to represent or have influence with the Board of Trustees has contacted the Investment Manager with respect to a financial transaction or solicitation which is not solely on behalf of KRS with the Investment Manager, except as set forth below; and
- (d) The Investment Manager is in compliance with all representations, warranties and covenants in the Agreement which apply to the Investment Manager, including but not limited to any indemnity or insurance coverage requirements, except as set forth below. Current insurance coverage applicable to KRS's assets are as follows: (Please attach insurance certificates.)

Errors and Omissions dedicated to the Agreement: Date of expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Per occurrence limit: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual aggregate: \_\_\_\_\_

Directors and officers liability: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Brokers blanket bond or similar coverage: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Exceptions: (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHMENT VI**

Authorized Persons

(Remainder of this page left blank intentionally.)



# KENTUCKY RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

William A. Thielen, Executive Director

Perimeter Park West ▾ 1260 Louisville Road ▾ Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

kyret.ky.gov ▾ Phone: 502-696-8800 ▾ Fax: 502-696-8822



### Authorized Persons

Systems' designated positions listed below are authorized to provide verbal and written instructions and notices on behalf of Systems. Such instructions may be provided by facsimile or e-mail. Manager may conclusively rely on the instructions and notices received from any one of these authorized persons unless notified to the contrary.

#### Interim Chief Investment Officer/Director of Fixed Income

Incumbent: David Peden

(502) 696-8485 phone; (502) 696-8805 fax

Signature: David Peden

#### Deputy Chief Investment Officer/Director of Absolute Return

Incumbent: Chris Schelling

(502) 696-8642 phone; (502) 696-8805 fax

Signature: Chris Schelling

#### Director of Equity Assets

Incumbent: Joe Gilbert

(502) 696-8632 phone; (502) 696-8805 fax

Signature: Joe Gilbert

#### Director of Real Return Assets /Real Estate

Incumbent: Thomas Masthay

(502) 696-8850 phone; (502) 696-8805 fax

Signature: Thomas Masthay

#### Director of Private Equity

Incumbent: Brent Aldridge

(502) 696-8633 phone; (502) 696-8805 fax

Signature: Brent Aldridge

#### Executive Director

Incumbent: Bill Thielen

(502) 696-8455 phone; (502) 696-8801 fax

Signature: Bill Thielen

I hereby certify that the above individuals have been duly authorized as indicated above, and that such authorization remains in force as of this date.

Signed: Brian Thomas Dated: 2/11/14

Brian Thomas

General Counsel

(502) 696-8645 phone; (502) 696-8801 fax



**ATTACHMENT VII**

Proxy Voting Policy

(Remainder of this page left blank intentionally.)



**Kentucky Retirement Systems**  
Investment Proxy Voting Policy  
Approved May 2011

The Kentucky Retirement Systems Board of Trustees appoints an Investment Committee with full authority to act for the Board in the acquisition, sale and management of the securities and funds of the Retirement Systems. The Board also authorizes the Investment Committee or designee, custodian, investment manager or agent to execute stock proxies for the Board. Said delegate(s) shall maintain detailed records of its performance of its duty and provide such records to the Board as may be requested by the Board from time to time.

This position paper is hereby adopted by the Investment Committee to provide a set of guidelines to be followed in order to execute proxies. The following statement reflects the general policy that shall be applied as proxy issues are considered:

To support management if management's position appears reasonable, is not detrimental to the long term equity ownership of the corporation and reflects consideration of the impact of societal values and attitudes on the long term liability of the corporation and is in the best interest of the plan participants.

The following paragraphs shall be applied when considering the more specific proxy issues that are likely to be encountered on a more routine basis.

#### A. Routine Business or Financial Matters

##### Election of Directors

FOR

In a majority of instances, election of directors is a routine voting issue. Unless there is a proxy fight for seats on the Board, Kentucky Retirement Systems will usually vote in favor of the Management-proposed slate of directors.

##### Appointment of Auditors

FOR

The selection of independent accountants to audit the company's financial records is a routine business matter and in most instances is submitted to shareholders for public relations reasons. Since the accounting firm selected to do the audit has no effect on the investment value of the company's securities, Kentucky Retirement Systems will support Management's recommendation.

##### Increase Authorized Common Stock

FOR \*

Kentucky Retirement Systems will support an increase in authorized common stock needed to implement a stock split when coupled with intent to immediately effect the split, or aid in a restructuring or acquisition or provide a sufficient number of shares for employee savings plans, stock option or executive compensation plans. A satisfactory explanation for a company's plans for the stock must be disclosed in the proxy statement.

\* Kentucky Retirement Systems will oppose increases in authorized common stock if we suspect that the shares are to be used to implement a poison pill or another form of anti-takeover device, or if the



issuance of new shares could excessively dilute the value of the outstanding shares upon issuance.

#### Changes in Board Structure

FOR \*

Companies may propose various provisions related to the structure of the Board of Directors. These provisions may include changing the way Board vacancies are filled, directors are nominated or the number of directors. These provisions may include Majority Vote Director Elections and the Separation of the CEO and Chairman of Board. These proposals may be proposed amendments to the Charter or by-laws and need to be reviewed by the shareholders prior to voting. In most instances these proposals are not controversial nor an anti-takeover device. Therefore, Kentucky Retirement Systems generally votes in favor of the proposal.

- \* However, Kentucky Retirement Systems is opposed to cumulative voting for members of the Board and attempts to limit term of Board of Directors based on tenure or age.

### B. Non-Routine Business or Financial Matters

#### Considering Non-Financial Effects of a Merger Proposal

AGAINST

Kentucky Retirement Systems will oppose proposals that require the Board of Directors to consider what impact a merger would have on certain groups other than a company's shareholders, such as employees, consumers, business partners, and the communities in which the company is located. We expect that a company's Board of Directors will act in the best interest of its shareholders at all times.

#### Director Liability and Indemnification

FOR \*

The Investment Committee believes that proposals concerning Liability and Indemnification, which limit the personal liability of directors for breaches of fiduciary duty of care and provisions for payment of expenses incurred by officials, directors and other representatives who become defendants in lawsuits, should be evaluated on a case by case basis with reasonable measures supported and extreme measures opposed.

#### Executive Compensation

FOR \*

Executive compensation can take various forms but should provide adequate compensation and incentives to management consistent with the long term interests of the shareholders of the company.

- \* Management should have some assurance that they will not, in the event of a takeover, be terminated without motive and compensation. However, Kentucky Retirement Systems is concerned that some compensation agreements provide excessive compensation in the event of a takeover. Kentucky Retirement Systems does not oppose agreements which provide executives with a reasonable period of compensation after termination; however they will oppose compensation plans which are excessive.

#### Stock Splits

FOR

Kentucky Retirement Systems will vote in favor of a proposal to split the company's stock if there is an immediate intent to effect the split.



Employment Relations

FOR \*

The Board of Directors and Corporate Management have the responsibility for harmonious labor relations. This responsibility also includes conducting labor negotiations within the appropriate laws of the jurisdiction.

- \* Where efficient operation of the corporation requires plant closings or relocations, the corporation should give as much notice as possible and assist its employees in relocating or in seeking other employment. Resolutions of shareholders which seek to impose requirements on management in this regard will not be supported automatically. Support will be contingent upon whether or not managers can demonstrate that efforts have been made to retain good employment relations subject to the constraints encountered in the particular circumstances.

### C. Anti-Takeover Issues

Blank Check Preferred Stock

AGAINST

A Blank Check Preferred Stock proposal is one that authorizes the issuance of certain preferred stock at some future point in time and allows the Board of Directors to establish voting, dividend, conversion, and other rights at the time of issuance. While Blank Check Preferred Stock can provide a corporation with the flexibility needed to meet changing financial conditions, it also may be used as the vehicle for implementing a poison pill defense, or it may be placed in friendly hands to help block a takeover bid. Kentucky Retirement Systems concern is that once this stock has been authorized, shareholders have no further power to determine how or when it will be allocated.

Classified Boards

AGAINST

A Classified Board is typically divided into three separate classes, each class to hold office for a term of two or three years. Only a portion of the Board of Directors can be elected or replaced each year. Since this type of proposal has fundamental anti-takeover implications, Kentucky Retirement Systems opposes the adoption of Classified Boards.

Fair Price Provisions

AGAINST

A Fair Price provision in the company's charter or by-laws is designed to assure that, if the Corporation is acquired under a plan not agreed to by the Board of Directors, each shareholder's securities will be purchased at the same price. In most instances the provision requires that any tender offer made by a third party be made to all shareholders at the same price.

Fair pricing provisions attempt to limit the "two-tiered" pricing systems in which the interested party or would-be acquirer of the company initially offers a premium for a sufficient number of shares of the company to garner control. Thereafter, an offer at a much lower price is made to the remaining shareholders who have no choice at all but to accept the offer. The "two-tiered" approach is coercive in that it makes it easier for an outsider to gain control of a company because it provides an incentive to the shareholder to sell his shares immediately in order to receive the benefits of a higher price per share and avoid falling into the second tier, if the offer is successful. The coercive pressures associated with these offers have caused many states to adopt controlled share acquisition statutes which restrict this practice by law.

In theory this type of provision is acceptable standing alone, however, given the fact that the practice is in most aspects prohibited by law, and the fact that Fair Price Provisions are invariably linked with other anti-takeover measures, such as supermajority voting requirements to approve certain transactions, Kentucky Retirement Systems will vote against most Fair Price Provisions.

Limiting Shareholders' Right to Call Special Meetings

AGAINST

Companies contend that such limitations are necessary to prevent minority shareholders from taking control of the company's agenda. However, such limits also have anti-takeover implications such as preventing a shareholder who has acquired a significant stake in the company from forcing management to address the potential sale of the company. Additionally, a limitation on shareholder action makes it difficult for a large shareholder or group of shareholders to use this facility to force management to address issues that may be of urgent or utmost importance. Since, in most instances, state law prohibits shareholders from abusing or using this facility in certain manners. Kentucky Retirement Systems see no justifiable reason for management to eliminate this facility. Kentucky Retirement Systems will oppose the elimination of this fundamental shareholder right.

Limiting Shareholders' Right to Act by Written Consent

AGAINST

Action by written consent enables a large shareholder or group of shareholders of a company to initiate and vote on corporate matters without having to wait until the date of the next annual meeting. Kentucky Retirement Systems believes this is a fundamental shareholder right that is inherent in the concept of stock ownership, and will oppose any proposals which may limit.

Supermajority Vote Requirements

AGAINST

A Supermajority Vote Requirement is a charter or by-law requirement that, when implemented, raises the percentage of shareholder votes needed to approve certain proposals such as mergers, changes of control, or proposals to amend or repeal a portion of the Articles of Incorporation.

Re-incorporation

AGAINST

For various reasons, a corporation may choose to reincorporate under the laws of a different state. Their reasoning may include taxation, the state's General Business Law and the level of corporate experience the state's court may have. However, in a majority of instances a re-incorporation proposal has its foundation in the corporations's desire to incorporate in another state in order to take advantage of that state's laws governing corporations and corporate control and the state courts' views in interpreting laws that make it more difficult for unsolicited takeovers to occur. In such cases, Kentucky Retirement systems will oppose proposals for reincorporation.

Issuance of Stock with Unequal Voting Rights

AGAINST

Proposals of this nature are generally anti-takeover schemes which result in unequal voting rights among different classes of shareholders. The most frequent proposal of this type is a dual class capitalization plan which establishes two classes of stock. As an incentive to encourage shareholders to approve plans designed to concentrate voting power in the hands of insiders, some plans give higher dividends to shareholders willing to exchange shares with superior voting rights for shares with inferior voting rights.

Unequal voting rights plans are designed to reduce the voting power of existing shareholders and concentrate a significant amount of voting power in the hands of management. In the majority of instances,



they serve as an effective safeguard against hostile takeovers. For these reasons, Kentucky Retirement Systems deem these plans unacceptable and in most instances will vote against these proposals.

#### Elimination of Preemptive Rights

AGAINST

Preemptive Rights allow the shareholders of the company to buy newly issued shares before they are offered to the public in order to retain their then current percentage of ownership as well as to avoid ownership dilution by the issuance of additional stock. Kentucky Retirement Systems believe this is fundamental right of a shareholder and barring a compelling reason should not be eliminated by management. Kentucky Retirement Systems will oppose management proposals requesting eliminating these rights and will support shareholder proposals which request the restoration of Preemptive Rights.

### D. Corporate Governance Shareholder Proposals

#### Submit Company's Shareholder Rights Plan Shareholder Vote

FOR \*

Most Shareholder Rights Plans (sometimes called poison pills) permit the shareholders of a target company involved in a hostile takeover to acquire shares of that company, the acquiring company, or both, at a substantial discount once a triggering event occurs. A triggering event is usually a hostile tender offer or the acquisition by an outside party of a certain percentage of the company's stock. Since most plans exclude the hostile bidder from the purchase, the effect in most instances, is to dilute the equity interest and the voting rights of the potential acquirer once the plan is triggered. Shareholder Rights Plans are designed to be so disadvantageous to potential acquirers that merely their existence could deter possible acquirers from making a hostile bid.

- \* Kentucky Retirement Systems will support shareholder proposals asking that the company submit their Shareholder Rights Plan to a shareholder vote. Kentucky Retirement Systems will vote case-by-case on proposals to completely redeem Rights Plans.

#### Anti-Greenmail Proposal

FOR

Greenmail payments generally result when a potential hostile acquirer has accumulated a significant percentage of the company's stock and the company acquires the raider's stock at an aggregate price usually above the then current market value usually in exchange for an agreement that the raider would not attempt to acquire control within a certain number of years. The proposal that has been proposed most often to prevent greenmail is the adoption of charter amendments severely limiting the board's ability to acquire blocks of the company's stock in these situations and at above market prices. Kentucky Retirement Systems will vote in favor of an anti-greenmail proposal standing alone provided the proposal has no other management initiated anti-takeover attributes.

### E. Social and Policy Issues

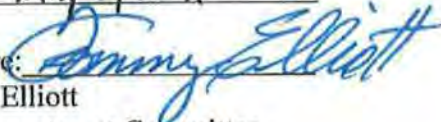
We believe that most decisions of a policy nature, having either a direct or an indirect effect on the conduct of business and on corporate profitability should remain management responsibilities. As such, they should be subject only to their Board of Director's approval; therefore, we would support the position taken by management.



**Signatories**

As Adopted by the Investment Committee

Date: May 3, 2011

Signature:   
Tommy Elliott  
Chair, Investment Committee

As Adopted by the Board of Trustees

Date: May 19, 2011

Signature:   
Jennifer Elliott  
Chair, Board of Trustees