



**For Immediate Release
January 22, 2013**

LASERS Returns 14.3 Percent for Calendar Year 2012

Baton Rouge-The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) generated an investment return of 14.3 percent for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. The 2012 calendar year-to-date performance is based on LASERS total plan, with a current market value exceeding \$9.5 billion.

In addition to being recognized as one of the top ten performing pension systems in the nation for the past decade, LASERS has been nominated for the Mid-Sized Public Plan of the Year by Institutional Investor. Institutional Investor is a leading international business to business publisher, focused primarily on international finance. For more than 30 years, they have recognized people and firms in the financial services industry for excellence.

LASERS current fiscal year-to-date return for the period July 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 is eight percent, with a three-year average return of 10 percent. LASERS was recently recognized by Wilshire's Trust Universe Comparison Service (TUCS), as one of the top public pension systems in the United States with a market value greater than \$1 billion. Statistics reveal that LASERS is in the top nine percent in both the 10-year and three-year investment return categories.

LASERS Executive Director Cindy Rougeou said, "Throughout the turmoil in the markets over the past decade, LASERS has maintained a 'stay the course' strategy as a defined benefit plan constructed to withstand the ups and downs of the market. Our returns reflect the soundness of our investment approach, making modest adjustments over time when appropriate, and never over-reacting to any one year market return."

For more information, please contact LASERS Public Information Director Tonja Normand at tnormand@lasersonline.org or 225.922.1131.

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