

CITY OF	
MANCHESTER	
EMPLOYEES'	
CONTRIBUTORY	
RETIREMENT	
SYSTEM	

MECRS COVID-19 Virus Response

March 13, 2020

Many organizations are implementing cautionary procedures in response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus and announcing how they plan to cope with the situation if employees become infected and are unable to work. At the present time, we have no way of predicting the extent to which the COVID-19 virus might impact our operations here at MECRS, but we do have plans which we can implement in response to various stages of seriousness, should conditions worsen.

Many of the functions of our organization, such as paying the retirees each month, are largely automated and the service providers we use assure us that they have the means in place to have infected, but still capable employees work remotely from home to carry out their missions. Here at MECRS we have similar capabilities that would allow us to operate remotely, without the danger of spreading infection, if that became necessary.

The most challenging situation could be providing retirement counseling for members who are about to retire if the infection rate across the local population becomes more acute. Should that happen, we believe that we can quickly employ alternate approaches using telephones, the Internet, and the US Mail, to accomplish what needs to be done.

Since we cannot predict exactly how any situation may develop, we need to wait until the circumstances are understood and then respond accordingly. At present we are still in the business as usual mode.

For now, all of the MECRS staff is healthy and upbeat, we continue to provide normal services, and we will take whatever actions are deemed appropriate to respond to the virus situation as it unfolds.