



# TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 839

GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSEMEN, GARAGE EMPLOYEES AND HELPERS, AND FOOD PROCESSING (EXCLUDING CONSTRUCTION); COUNTIES OF BENTON, FRANKLIN, WALLA WALLA, COLUMBIA AND GARFIELD IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND ATHENA, WESTON, AND MILTON FREEWATER IN UMATILLA COUNTY IN THE STATE OF OREGON.  
AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

ROBERT C. HAWKS  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

1103 W. SYLVESTER STREET  
PASCO, WA 99301

PHONE (509) 547-7513  
FAX (509) 546-2560

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Select Committee on Pension Policy  
P.O. Box 40914  
Olympia, WA 98504-0914

To Whom It May Concern:

Teamsters Local 839, located primarily in Southeastern and Central Washington, represents hundreds of municipal and county public safety employees. These employees should be considered for the Public Safety Employees Retirement System (PSERS) and the Early Retirement Factor (ERF) because the responsibilities of their job classifications come with one or more of the following factors:

- High degree of physical risk
- High stress environment
- Potential exposure to severe risk on a daily basis
- Responsibility to provide public protection of lives and/or property
- High physical demands
- Exposure to violent criminal activity and its aftermath
- Minimal opportunity to advance into managerial/supervisory roles

These employees hold a wide variety of job titles, including:

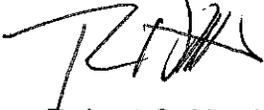
**Non-commissioned local law enforcement:** Local and state law enforcement agencies non-commissioned staff suffer a high risk of stress and physical harm. Property, forensics, and animal control officers are just a few of these positions with constant exposure to dangerous circumstances and potential trauma. Local 839 represents these employees at the **Benton County Sherriff's Department and Benton Juvenile Detention Department**, and municipal public safety including dozens of public safety employees in **Connell, College Place, and Prosser** who face daily exposure to high stress and risk.

**Public road crews:** Road crews face high physical risks and stress from reckless drivers, construction equipment, high heat and freezing temperatures and hazardous working conditions. Our members at the **Prosser and Benton County Public Works**

**Departments** work hard, physical jobs and deserve coverage and access to early retirement benefits.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RCH', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert C. Hawks  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Teamsters Union Local 839