



For Immediate Release

December 12, 2013

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**Sacramento County Retirement System Recognized for
Innovative Investment Management**

The international financial publication *aiCIO* announced that the Sacramento County Employees' Retirement System (SCERS) is one of three California public pension funds recognized for their innovation and success in managing their investment programs.

In competition with public fund nominees from around the globe, SCERS was the runner-up in the category of public pension funds with \$15 Billion or less in assets. The top spot went to the San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association (SBCERA), another of the California county pension funds governed by the County Employees' Retirement Law of 1937 (1937 Act).

"We congratulate our colleagues at San Bernardino County for their well-deserved award. And we thank the SCERS Board, staff and SCERS' investment partners for their collective efforts in keeping the Sacramento County fund strong and growing," said Richard Stensrud, Chief Executive Officer. "The steps we have taken to enhance the diversification of our investment portfolio have helped to lower risk and improve performance across all economic environments. This has allowed SCERS to generate an investment return of 12.6% per year over the 4 years since the 2007-2009 global market collapse, bringing SCERS' assets today to \$7.4 billion, which is more than \$1.2 billion higher than before the market collapse."

The *aiCIO* Industry Innovation Awards recognize the world's leading institutional investors in ten categories, including foundations, endowments, corporate plans, sovereign wealth funds, and public pension plans of various asset levels. Last year the winner in the public pension funds under \$15 Billion category was the CERN Pension Fund, which is the Switzerland-based pension fund for the European nuclear regulatory agency.

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“We are pleased that two of our California county funds have been recognized and honored for their accomplishments in the pension plan investment arena,” said Doug Rose, President of the State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS), which is composed of the 20 California county retirement systems operating under the 1937 Act. “This award demonstrates that California county retirement systems are indeed worldwide industry leaders among public pension investors.”

The California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS) won the top award for public pension funds with assets over \$100 billion, a rare repeat winner of an innovation award.

The *aiC/O* awards look for innovation in institutional investment programs, especially in a volatile market, and recognize the investors who most successfully execute on that innovation.

“We are proud to say that our investment approach has kept us at an 83% funded ratio, among the highest in the state,” Stensrud said. “Our strong investment program has also allowed us to minimize the impact of the investment market collapse on employer pension costs, saving Sacramento County and our other participating employers millions over the last 4 years, and largely putting the impact of the market collapse behind us.”

Sacramento County Employees’ Retirement System (SCERS) is a multiple-employer public employee retirement system, enacted and administered in accordance with the provisions of the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937. SCERS provides retirement, disability, and survivors’ benefits to employees of the County of Sacramento; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento; and eleven Special Districts. The total membership consists of 12,155 active, 9,239 retired, and 2,851 deferred members. Total assets under management are currently \$7.4 billion.

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