

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 9, 2026

**CONTACT:** Jennifer Mausolf, MERS 517-703-1326

## MERS Delivers Top-Tier Investment Performance in 2025

*Strengthening Retirement Security for Michigan's Public Employees is MERS' core mission*

**LANSING, Mich.** — The Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS) announced today that it finished 2025 in the top 15th percentile of the BNY Mellon universe, reflecting strong investment returns and continued outperformance relative to peers.

MERS' investment results exceeded its actuarial rate of return – an assumed rate used to project returns – across all measured time periods, underscoring the strength, resilience, and discipline of its long-term investment strategy. These results directly support MERS' mission of providing a secure and sustainable retirement for Michigan's public employees, including police officers, firefighters, nurses, and municipal workers.

“Strong investment performance matters because it translates into greater retirement security for our members and greater stability for the communities we serve,” said **Kerrie Vanden Bosch**, CEO of MERS. “Our results reflect years of thoughtful portfolio construction, disciplined risk management, and a relentless focus on creating long-term value for the public employees – the firefighters, nurses and public safety officers – we proudly serve.”

MERS' innovative Dedicated Gains Policy allows the system to responsibly lock in gains during periods of strong performance and use them to improve the plan's long-term sustainability, which benefits local municipalities as well as retirees. Thus as a result of its strong returns, MERS' risk profile – a measure of risk within a plan – will be improved and its assumed actuarial rate of return will be lowered, a key sign of fiscal health and resilience.

“MERS continues to demonstrate that strong returns and lower risk are not mutually exclusive,” said **Jeb Burns**, MERS Chief Investment Officer. “By combining disciplined governance policies with strong performance, we are strengthening the system for the long term while reducing risk and volatility, so we can help provide a secure retirement for our members. “

With an 80-year history of never missing a pension payment, MERS remains committed to innovation, sound governance, and fiduciary excellence in service of Michigan's public employees and the communities they support.

###

### **About Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS)**

The Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS) is an organization that administers retirement plans for Michigan's local units of government on a not-for-profit basis. We offer comprehensive services, keep costs low, and put our members interests first – making us the plan **fiduciary**.

Our mission is to support a secure retirement for those who serve Michigan communities.

We proudly serve more than 1,000 municipalities representing over 150,000 participants, including firefighters, nurses, the people who plow our roads, and those who keep our communities safe.

Learn more at [www.mersofmich.com](http://www.mersofmich.com).