

News from the Office of Administration on the Litigation regarding the Market Value Adjustment

March 25, 2010

A decision to appeal Judge Patricia Joyce's ruling was made on March 18, 2010. Updates on the appeal process will be provided by the Attorney General's Office to the Office of Administration and the State of Missouri Deferred Compensation Plan. This information will continue to be posted on the plan website.

March 1, 2010

On Friday, February 26, 2010, Cole County Circuit Judge Patricia Joyce ruled in favor of Nationwide Life Insurance Co., and Nationwide Retirement Solutions, in the lawsuit filed by the State of Missouri, Office of Administration and the Missouri State Deferred Compensation Plan. The suit was filed in early 2006 to seek recovery of a market value adjustment made by Nationwide when the decision was made to transfer account balances from the Nationwide Stable Value Fund to a new service provider. Principal balances in participant accounts were not affected by the transfer in 2006. However, the interest rate earned on those accounts has been slightly less than the rate would have been without the market value adjustment. The Attorney General's Office will be in contact with Office of Administration and the State of Missouri Deferred Compensation Plan (which is now administered by the Missouri State Employees Retirement System board) regarding next steps, including whether or not to appeal to the Western District Court of Appeals.

October 2009

The State continues to pursue this complex litigation and thus filed its motion for summary judgment on the contract issue on October 16, 2009. The Court ordered a briefing schedule and set oral argument for January 12, 2010. The court continues to exercise its oversight of this case.

The transition of the oversight authority over the deferred compensation plan to MOSERS has not caused any change in the litigation strategy employed by the Office of the Attorney General.

We will continue to provide a regular update via a posting on this website whether or not anything specific has occurred. This way you will know that the Office of Administration continues to monitor the litigation activities. If events warrant direct communication with all participants, the Office of Administration will work with MOSERS to provide that communication.

April 2009

As noted in our August 2008 update, the State continues to pursue this litigation. This is a complex lawsuit, and the parties are engaging in extensive discovery. That process continues under the oversight of the court. The transition of the oversight authority over the deferred compensation plan to MOSERS has not caused any change in the litigation strategy employed by the Office of the Attorney General.

We will continue to provide a regular update via a posting on this website whether or not anything specific has occurred. This way you will know that the Office of Administration continues to monitor the litigation activities. If events warrant direct communication with all participants, the Office of Administration will work with MOSERS to provide that communication.

August 2008

As noted in our January update, (see below) the State continues to pursue this litigation. This is a complex lawsuit, and the parties are engaging in extensive discovery. That process continues under the oversight of the court.

We will continue to provide a regular update via a posting on this website whether or not anything specific has occurred. This way you will know that the Office of Administration continues to monitor the litigation activities. If events warrant direct communication with all participants, the Office of Administration will work with MOSERS to provide that communication.

January 2008

The State is continuing to pursue this litigation. This is a complex lawsuit, and the parties are engaging in extensive discovery. We will continue to update you as developments occur via a posting on this website."

January 2007

Our November 3, 2006 update indicated the Commission is pursuing legal remedies with Nationwide and is consulting with the Attorney General's Office on this matter.

In December, 2006, the Attorney General filed a lawsuit in Cole County Circuit Court wherein the State seeks return of the \$18.6 million retained by Nationwide as a Market Value Adjustment. The claim is for breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duties.

The Commission will continue to update participants as events warrant.

The Commission asks for your patience as litigation can take time. Be assured both the Commission and the Attorney General are diligently pursuing this matter.

As the Commission related in prior updates, if you were a participant in the Nationwide fixed annuity, the most important message for you is that your account balance transferred to ING at 100% of its value.

For the first quarter of 2007, ING is providing their participants with a return of 5.47% which is above their contractually required minimum interest rate of 5.15%. ING's active management of the fund helped increase the return beyond the contractual guarantees. Even though, this "increased" rate is slightly less than it would have been without the MVA, keep in mind that ING's contractual bid was approximately 1% higher than Nationwide's. Therefore, participants are assured of receiving a very competitive rate of return while retaining all the advantages of being a participant in the Missouri Deferred Compensation Plan.

November 3, 2006

The Deferred Compensation Commission is aware of the concerns participants have voiced regarding Nationwide's withholding of an \$18.6 million "market value adjustment" when it transferred fixed annuity assets to the new contractor, ING. If you were a participant in the Nationwide fixed annuity, ***the most important message for you is that your account balance transferred to ING at 100% of its value.***

Why did the Commission choose a new vendor?

It had been ten years since we last bid the contract and the Commission wanted to achieve several goals with the new contract:

- A) Establish a fixed cost for the Third-Party Administrator (TPA) - formerly PEBSCO, now CitiStreet. By bidding a fixed fee, the cost to the participants is very likely to go down as the assets in the Plan increase, unlike the former contract where costs were based on a percentage of assets.
- B) The Commission wanted to bring to the Plan several new features, which they could not include under the old contract - in addition to the cost reduction mentioned above. These features are:
 - Establish a fixed annuity where the Plan is not a general creditor. If the insurance company ran into financial difficulty, the Commission wanted the Plan's assets protected. With ING, the Plan's funds are in a Separate Account, protected from ING's creditors.
 - Help participants make better investments choices using tools like Financial Engines

- Allow participants access to a Self Directed Account that makes available nearly any mutual fund, stock or bond that the participant could want

Will the Commission try to recover the market value adjustment?

Yes. The Commission is currently in litigation with Nationwide and is consulting with the Attorney General's Office on this matter.

What effect did Nationwide's withholding of the market value adjustment have on my account?

As emphasized above, your account was transferred to ING at 100% of its value. ING is providing all the participants with the contractually required minimum interest rate on their accounts. ING, however, is permitted to exceed the minimum rate if the market rate permits such an increase. This "increased" interest rate is slightly less than it would have been without M.V.A. Since ING's interest rate is approximately 1% higher than Nationwide's was, participants will still receive a very competitive rate of return.

June 5, 2006

The previously announced interest rate for the new fixed annuity, the Stable Income Fund was approximately 5.4% for the period beginning June 5, 2006 and ending September 30, 2006. When Nationwide transferred the fixed account money to ING, the new contractor, it withheld a "market value adjustment" (MVA) of \$18.6 million or approximately 3.7% of the fund. Due to Nationwide's action, the interest rate on the Stable Income Fund may have to be adjusted slightly. The Commission believes that Nationwide did not have a legal right to withhold the MVA. The Commission is in consultation with the Attorney General's Office concerning its legal remedies in the matter and is committed to doing everything in its power to maintain the full book value of participants' accounts while it pursues its legal remedies against Nationwide to recover the money.

The commission will provide you with regular updates on the proceedings in this matter.