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Fake Retirements give 663 Statewide Florida Bureaucrats and Politicians \$83.7 Million in cash pension bonuses in January 2023



TRIPLEDIPPERS.org



Exposing Public Corruption and Wasteful Spending

Dave Jaye [Researcher] (586) 488-5177
dave.jaye55@gmail.com ★ Facebook.com/dave.jaye.16

Statewide, 663 Florida Politicians and Bureaucrats who filed fake retirement paperwork are taking **\$83.7 Million** in pension Cash bonuses this January 2023. The Highest January 2023 Fake Pension Cash Bonus Payout is \$763,622 to an Employee with the Miami Dade Fire Department. 11 Politician Judges took pension cash bonuses between \$627,421 and \$535,260. “Triple Dippers are ‘Public Servants’ who take a salary and a pension with interest at the same time to do the same job!” said Dave Jaye, Researcher, www.tripledippers.org “ Triple Dippers *are the only* Florida Public employees who don’t pay 3% of their salary into the Florida retirement system-cheating taxpayers out of \$62.8 Million! No private company allows such abuses.” See the Statewide list of Florida’s Triple Dippers at <https://tripledippers.org/fl-cash-outs-January-2022/>

Add the Cherry on the top – these Triple Dippers are cashing out their unused days off at their final highest salary, not the salary when the days were earned taking more money from taxpayers and artificially increasing the final year’s pay on which their pensions are calculated. Collecting a paycheck and a pension at the same time, Triple Dippers can afford to delay Social Security which then increases 8% per year to age 70. That’s about a 40% increase in Social Security payments! Triple Dippers are formally called the **Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP)**.

Instead of giving overpaid bureaucrats and politicians more money, use our tax money to help 10,000 people left homeless due to Hurricane Ian¹ and Hurricane Nicole’s destruction² “Giving “Public Servants” a paycheck and a pension at the same time to do the same job has led to **\$36 Billion in unfunded Florida Retirement obligations**, a \$1,675 liability for every man, and woman and child in Florida³! This abuse of taxpayers must stop.”

¹ <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2079623235780#:~:text=The%20magnitude%20of%20Hurricane%20Ian's,millions%20more%20still%20without%20power>

² <https://www.cnn.com/2022/11/10/weather/hurricane-nicole-florida-thursday>

³ <https://alec.org/publication/unaccountable-and-unaffordable-2020/>

“Although they never really retired, approximately 27,581 Florida Public Employees and Politicians just file paperwork pretending to retire but keep on working and pocket approximately \$1 Billion in salaries and \$4.63 Billion in pension payments at the same time to do the same job and are the only Florida Public employees who don’t pay 3% of their salary into the Pension System,” stated Dave Jaye. “No Retirement Party, No Speeches, No Gold Watch, and No break in Employment! This scheme to rip off taxpayers was approved by Florida Government Entities by a majority vote from Mosquito Districts to Cities, Counties, Schools, Universities, the State Legislature, and the Governor. These Public Employees in conjunction with their supervisors are perpetrating fraud. The Public Manager or Politician simply signs off on the Fake retirement. If the paperwork is in order that’s good enough. Even though the public employee and Politician never really left their job”.

“Hurricane Ian destroyed the financial security of thousands of Florida retirees whose life savings were invested in houses and condos lost to the storm’s winds and flooding”⁴, said Dave Jaye, Researcher, tripledippers.org “Hurricane Ian has displaced thousands of Floridians whose homes are now uninhabitable, taking not only their shelter but their financial safety nets.” Replacing the approximately 27,581 Statewide over-the-hill retired Triple Dippers with freshly educated and trained employees would save approximately 40% around \$902.8 Million” stated Dave Jaye.

Florida’s January 2023 Baker’s Dozen Triple Dippers by pension cash bonus are:

	First	Last	Employer	Job title	Fake Retirement Date	Pension Cash Bonus Date	Pension Cash Bonus	
1	JUAN	GARRANDES	MIAMI-DADE COUNTY	Fire	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$763,622	mvinson@jud11.flcourts.org
2	MELANIE	MAY	OFFICE OF STATE COURTS	Politician Judge West Palm Beach	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$749,722	martysmalley@tampabay.rr.com
3	ROBERT	SMITH	NORTH COLLIER FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE	Fire	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$710,166	rfuhr@bellsouth.net
4	JILL	WALKER	OFFICE OF STATE COURTS	Politician Judge Wakulla County	3/1/2018	1/2/2023	\$704,190	pdeltoro@bellsouth.net
5	DOUGLAS	PEACOCK	MIAMI-DADE COUNTY	Sergeant	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$669,295	pahern254@gmail.com
6	MERRILL	CAMEL	MIAMI-DADE COUNTY	Fire	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$626,102	ptst528@gmail.com
7	DARREN	WILLIAMS	MIAMI-DADE COUNTY	Fire	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$611,861	blevay@marionso.com
8	PATRICE	QUINN	PALM BEACH CO SHERIFF'S DEPT	Lieutenant	7/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$594,675	bass@windstream.net
9	EDDIE	JONES	PALM BEACH CO SHERIFF'S DEPT	Fire	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$589,257	tboggus1@gmail.com

⁴ <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/hurricane-ian-destroyed-retirees-life-savings/>

10	JORGE	LEGRA	MIAMI-DADE COUNTY	Waste Water	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$562,972	editllc3@gmail.com
11	ANTONIO	COTARELO	MIAMI-DADE COUNTY	Waste Water	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$531,262	kentw54@hotmail.com
12	MICHAEL	WALKER	PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	Zoning	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$497,304	sweetlinda75@gmail.com
13	TIMOTHY	COLLINS	OFFICE OF STATE COURTS	Politician Judge	2/1/2018	1/31/2023	\$492,788	eunicesmith053@gmail.com

These Florida Triple Dipping Bureaucrats and Politicians don't pay 3% of their salary to the Florida Retirement System shifting personal responsibility to taxpayers \$8,103,216* .03= **\$243,096**

“This abuse of taxpayers must stop”. “We need to create opportunities for young people to move into these jobs to buy a home and start a family replacing these overpriced-cum-golden oldie Triple Dippers who are just putting \$763,622 or more of cash bonuses into the bank. Young people have much lower health care costs, are better educated and have much more energy than these Senior Citizen Triple Dippers,” noted Dave Jaye.

Law enforcement employees typically collect huge amounts of overtime which results in outrageous pension cash bonuses. In 2022 the Governor and Legislature approved increasing the Triple Dipper time for Law Enforcement and their Secretaries by 60% from 5 to 8 years of collecting a fake pension and paycheck at the same time. <https://tripleddippers.org/fl-cops-tripleddippers-july-2022/>

“The Florida Legislature and Governor should require Triple Dippers to contribute 3% of pay to the State Pension program just like every other ‘Public Servant’ and increase the ‘Public Servant’ contribution from 3% to 5% as proposed by then-Governor Rick Scott. Retirement cash bonuses should be eliminated”. <https://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/fl-xpm-2011-02-01-fl-scott-announces-pension-reforms-20110201-story.html>

The public employer (taxpayer-paid) match of DROP Triple Dippers’ salary to the Florida pension system has increased to 21.34% compared to 13.82% for regular class employees. In 2012 the Employer match for DROP employees was 4.33%. <https://fastdemocracy.com/bill-search/fl/2022/bills/FLB00027524/>
A major reason Triple Dippers Program is expanding is that many Triple Dippers work for the Florida State Senate, State House, and Governor’s office and are Elected Politicians. The Employer contribution rate for Legislators, the Governor and Cabinet is 66.73%
https://www.dms.myflorida.com/workforce_operations/retirement/employers/contribution_rates .