

**MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION**

**2016 CASH MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

1.) **Cash Management and Investment Objectives**

The MERCER COUNTY INSURANCE FUND COMMISSION's (hereinafter referred to as the Commission) objectives in this area are:

- a.) Preservation of capital.
- b.) Adequate safekeeping of assets.
- c.) Maintenance of liquidity to meet operating needs, claims settlements and dividends.
- d.) Diversification of the Commission's portfolio to minimize risks associated with individual investments.
- e.) Maximization of total return, consistent with risk levels specified herein.
- f.) Investment of assets in accordance with State and Federal Laws and Regulations.
- g.) Accurate and timely reporting of interest earnings, gains and losses by line of coverage in each Commission year.
- h.) Where legally permissible, cooperation with other local municipal joint insurance funds/commissions, and the New Jersey Division of Investment in the planning and execution of investments in order to achieve economies of scale.
- i.) Stability in the value of the Commission's economic surplus.

2.) **Permissible Investments**

Investments shall be limited to the following:

- a.) Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America.
- b.) Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
- c.) Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or bonds or other obligations of school districts of which the local unit is a part or within which the school district is located; or
- d.) Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date not exceeding 397 days, approved by the Division of Investment of the Department of Treasury for investment by local units.
- e.) Debt obligations of federal agencies or government corporations with maturities not greater than five (5) years from the date of purchase, excluding mortgage backed obligations, providing that such investments are purchased through the New Jersey Division of Investment and are consistent the Division's own investment guidelines, and providing that

the investment a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.

- f.) Repurchase agreements of fully collateralized securities, subject to rules and conditions established by the N.J. Department of Community Affairs.

No investment or deposit shall have a maturity longer than five (5) years from date of purchase.

3.) **Authorized Depositories**

In addition to the above, the Commission is authorized to deposit funds in certificates of deposit and other time deposits in banks covered by the Governmental Unit Depository Protection Act, NJSA 17:9-14 et seq. (GUDPA). The designated Bank must have a branch in Mercer County.

The Commission is also authorized to invest its assets in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

4.) **Authority for Investment Management**

The Treasurer is authorized and directed to make investments, with a maturity of three months or longer, through asset managers that may be selected by the Executive Committee. Such asset managers shall be discretionary trustees of the COMMISSION.

Their actions and decisions shall be consistent with this plan and all appropriate regulatory constraints.

In executing investments, asset managers shall minimize transaction costs by querying prices from at least three (3) dealers and purchasing securities on a competitive basis. When possible, federal securities shall be purchased directly from the US Treasury. Transactions shall not be processed through brokerages, which are organizationally affiliated with the asset manager. Transactions may also be processed through the New Jersey Division of Investment by the Commission's asset managers.

5.) **Preservation of Capital**

Securities shall be purchased with the ability to hold until maturity.

6.) **Safekeeping**

Securities purchased on behalf of the Commission shall be delivered electronically or physically to the Commission's custodial bank, which shall maintain custodial and/or safekeeping accounts for such securities on behalf of the Commission.