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**ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND VETERAN NAMED
MAIL CENTER MANAGER OF THE YEAR**

— Mail Systems Management Association Honors IMRF's Marianna Barner —

OAK BROOK, Ill. — Dec. 10, 2007 — The Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) today announced that mail center supervisor Marianna Barner received the Mail Center Manager of the Year Award from the Mail Systems Management Association (MSMA) Chicago chapter.

The annual award recognizes MSMA members whose contributions have improved productivity, profitability and quality of life notably in the workplace. The MSMA is a professional organization that represents mail and distribution systems managers in the United States. The association has 23 local chapters and more than 1,600 members nationwide.

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Barner has served as mail center supervisor of IMRF for more than seven years. Prior to that, she worked for two years in IMRF's human resources department. IMRF is a defined benefit pension plan for municipal workers throughout Illinois with more than \$24 billion in assets under management. It serves more than 174,000 active members and 84,000 benefit recipients.

Barner was nominated for the award by IMRF Office Services Manager Denise Streit, herself a recipient of the award in 2003.

"Marianna has made countless improvements to the operations of IMRF's mail center," Streit said. "As a result of her contributions, the mail center has become a model of organization and effective communication. She succeeds by impressing upon her staff the importance of every task, no matter how small."

"Providing top-quality member service is one of IMRF's highest priorities, so running a cost-effective mail center is vital," said Louis W. Kosiba, executive director of IMRF. "Under Marianna's management, the mail center has achieved new levels of efficiency. We are very proud of her accomplishments."

A native of La Grange, Ill., Barner currently resides in Bolingbrook, Ill., with her husband Brian. They have seven children.

ABOUT IMRF

The IMRF was created in 1939 by the Illinois General Assembly to provide death, disability and retirement benefits for employees of local units of government. Today, IMRF has more than 174,000 active members working for over 2,900 different units of government, including school districts, counties, cities and villages, parks and libraries. It has more than 84,000 retirees receiving an average monthly benefit of \$755, and more than \$24 billion in assets. IMRF was more than 100 percent funded on a market value basis as of December 31, 2006.

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