



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
Department of Employee Trust Funds  
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SECRETARY

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**CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 26, 2010  
**TO:** Employee Trust Funds Board  
Wisconsin Retirement Board  
Teachers Retirement Board  
**FROM:** Sharon Walk  
Appeals Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Pending Appeals

**This memo is for informational purposes only. No Board action is necessary.**

For the period January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009, 29 new appeals were filed, 13 final decisions were issued and 28 appeals were withdrawn.

As of February 26, 2010, there are 26 pending appeals, which can be divided into the following categories:

- Employee Trust Funds Board (11)**
  - Participation or Category of Employment..... 3
  - Annuity Option or Creditable Service ..... 3
  - Beneficiary ..... 4
  - Variable Fund Cancellation..... 1
- Wisconsin Retirement Board (3)**
  - Section 40.63 Disability Denial ..... 3
- Teachers Retirement Board (1)**
  - Section 40.63 Disability Denial ..... 1
- Group Insurance Board (10)**
  - Long-Term Disability Insurance Denial ..... 5
  - Health Insurance Coverage ..... 4
  - Income Continuation Insurance ..... 1
- Deferred Compensation Board (1)**
  - Denial of Application for Hardship Withdrawal . 1

Reviewed and approved by Robert J. Conlin, Deputy Secretary.	
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Board	Mtg Date	Item #
JI	3.18.10	5D

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For the past eight years, the number of pending appeals before all of the boards has steadily decreased. One reason for the decrease is the effort of Department staff to work with participants and, in particular, educate them on the criteria needed to qualify for benefits. We do not discourage participants from pursuing appeals through the hearing process. However, many participants ultimately decide not to appeal -- or they withdraw their appeals -- once they understand the reasons behind the Department's determination.

Staff will be available at the March 18, 2010, meeting to answer any questions you may have.