

# “NEGOTIATING IN DIFFICULT TIMES”

This Symposium will cover a variety of topics that are related to the difficulty being experienced in dealing with contract negotiations in these unprecedented economic times.

## **Bargaining strategies from a labor negotiator perspective:**

This panel will discuss their experiences in this climate and answer questions from the participants. The following labor firms have committed to this session that will be moderated by Robert Bonsall, of Beeson, Taylor and Bodine.

- Goyette and Associates, Attorneys at Law
- Lackie, Dammeier & McGill, APC, Attorneys at Law
- Mastagni, Holstedt, Amick, Miller and Johnson
- Rains, Lucia, Stem PC, Attorneys and Counselors at Law
- Silver, Hadden, Silver, Wexler, + Levine, a professional law corporation

## **Public Relations 101:**

In this changing media landscape, with fewer reporters, personal attacks against your retirement, and emerging citizen journalists, public relations is more important than ever.

Rachel Pitts, a public relations and media professional at Marketplace Communications, a division of Aaron Read & Associates, will share details on innovative communication strategies available to create a brand platform for your organization and pro-actively work to shed a positive light on your members.

## **Future of Current Retirement Benefits:**

This panel will take a look at the condition of current retirement benefits, from 37 Act systems, as well as CalPERS perspectives. They will also comment on the current efforts to alter or eliminate these benefits.

The following experts have agreed to serve on the panel:

- Priya Mathur, local agency elected member, CalPERS
- Richard White, President, SACRS

## **Analyzing Financial Records of Public Employers**

The goal of this portion of the program is to expose the attendees to various inquiries which can and should be explored to verify a public employer's claim that it cannot offer reasonable economic terms and conditions in collective bargaining.

- Presented by Peter Donahue, PBI Associates

## **Legislative Update:**

There will be a summary for significant legislation that was passed in legislative year 2009 and an update of current PORAC activity in current legislative session as well as initiatives that may impact PORAC.

- Presented by Ron Cottingham, PORAC President