

3. THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(3) THE BENEFITS SHALL BE PAID TO:

(I) THE SURVIVING SPOUSE, OR DEPENDENT CHILD OR CHILDREN, OR A MINOR CHILD OF THE DECEDENT,

(II) IF NO ONE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THEN DEPENDENT PARENT OR PARENTS;

~~(II) IF NO ONE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A PARENT, SISTER, BROTHER, OR GRANDPARENT OF THE DECEDENT AND WHO WAS DEPENDENT UPON THE DECEDENT FOR SUPPORT; OR~~

~~(III) IF NO ONE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER ITEM (I) OR (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE.~~

(III) (III) IF THERE IS NO SURVIVING SPOUSE NO ONE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER ITEM (I) OR (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE SURVIVING CHILD OR CHILDREN OF THE DECEDENT IN EQUAL SHARES;

(IV) (IV) IF NO ONE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER ITEM (I) OR (II), OR (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE SURVIVING PARENT OR PARENTS; OR

(V) (V) IF NO ONE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER ITEM (I), (II), OR (III), OR (IV) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A SURVIVING SISTER, BROTHER, OR GRANDPARENT OF THE DECEDENT IN EQUAL SHARES.

[(b)](C) If there is a surviving spouse or a dependent child or children, the case shall be laid before the [board of trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association] BOARD, and if the facts are established as provided in § 42, the surviving spouse, or surviving spouse and child, or children as the case may be, shall be placed on the "Disabled Firemen's and Rescue Squadmen's List", and the surviving spouse, while remaining unmarried, shall be entitled to receive a pension from the Maryland State Firemen's Association in an amount determined by the [board of trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association] BOARD, to be paid out of its treasury at whatever times, in whatever installments and in whatever amount as the [board of trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association] BOARD may decide, until remarriage.

[(c)](D) Each of the children of the deceased firefighters or individuals serving on a rescue squad shall receive a pension from the Maryland State Firemen's Association in an amount determined by the [board of trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association] BOARD and be paid out of its treasury at whatever times, in whatever installments and in whatever amount the [board of trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association] BOARD may decide, until the children each attain the age of 18 years.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed retroactively and shall be applied to and interpreted to affect volunteer firefighters and individuals serving on volunteer rescue squads who have died, on or after January July 1, 1996, while fighting a fire or performing any official task under