



**LABORERS' AND RETIREMENT BOARD EMPLOYEES'  
ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND OF CHICAGO**

January 22, 2024

The Honorable J.B. Pritzker  
Governor, State of Illinois  
207 State House  
Springfield, IL 62706

RE: Emerging Investment Managers Report (40 ILCS 5/1-109.1(8))

Dear Governor Pritzker:

In accordance with the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 40, Act 5, Article 1, Section 109.1(8), requiring Illinois Public Retirement Systems and Pension Funds to submit an annual report on emerging investment managers and diversity policies, the Laborers' and Retirement Board Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago (LABF) hereby submits its report.

Enclosed are the following policies adopted by the LABF's Board of Trustees in compliance with the statute:

- M/W/DBE/Emerging Investment Manager Utilization Policy;
- Policy Regarding Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Diversity for Fiduciaries, Consultants, and Senior Staff;
- Policy Regarding Businesses Owned by Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities for Administrative Contracts and Service Agreements; and
- M/W/DBE Broker-Dealer Utilization Policy.

The LABF is continuously seeking to provide opportunities for emerging investment managers. Appendix A lists the names and addresses of the emerging investment managers employed by the LABF. As of December 31, 2022, these firms managed 22.5% of total LABF assets, comprised as follows:

*By Ownership Classification*

Minority: 19.1%

Woman: 3.4%

Disabled: 0.0%

*By Asset Class*

Equities: 11.6%

Fixed Income: 64.5%

Alternatives: 15.7%

As of December 31, 2022, Attucks Asset Management managed LABF's Emerging Managers Program and the following six (6) M/W/DBE Emerging Managers were under the program:

Boston Common  
Channing Capital Management  
Lisanti Capital Growth, LLC  
Profit Investment Management  
Redwood Investments  
Thomas White International

The LABF has and will continue to take action to increase the use of emerging investment managers within the bounds of fiduciary and financial prudence. The M/W/DBE/Emerging Investment Manager Utilization Policy is enacted whenever the LABF commences an investment manager search. The LABF strongly encourages emerging investment managers to meet with the LABF's investment consultant and to include their company's profile in the consultant's database for future investment manager search opportunities. During 2022, pursuant to the amendment to Section 1-113.24 of the Illinois Pension Code, the Board graduated two eligible emerging investment managers that had provided investment services through a qualified manager of emerging investment managers services program.

Regarding minority broker-dealers, LABF continues to stress to its investment managers the importance of trading with minority broker-dealers. The enclosed M/W/DBE Broker-Dealer Utilization Policy, subject to best price and execution, requires investment managers to adhere to minimum goals for utilization of minority brokerage firms for trades executed on behalf of LABF and to submit a progress report to the LABF on a quarterly basis. If an investment manager fails to comply with the M/W/DBE Broker-Dealer Utilization Policy, the manager will be placed on "watch" status and if compliance efforts are deemed insufficient, the manager may be called before the LABF's Board of Trustees for questioning and/or be terminated. The LABF has previously terminated a manager who did not comply with the goals outlined in the MWDBE Broker-Dealer Utilization Policy.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (312) 236-2065.

Sincerely,



Tina Consola  
Executive Director

Enclosures.

cc: The Honorable Emanuel "Chris" Welch, Speaker of the House of Representatives  
The Honorable Don Harmon, President of the Senate

## **Appendix A**

### **EMERGING INVESTMENT MANAGERS**

*As of December 31, 2022*

**Attucks Asset Management (LABF's Manager of Emerging Managers)**

321 N Clark Street, Ste 740  
Chicago, IL 60654

**Brightwood Capital Advisors LLC**

810 7th Ave, 26 FL  
New York, NY 10019

**Capri Capital Partners**

875 N Michigan Ave, Ste 3430  
Chicago, IL 60611

**Core Capital Management**

300 N LaSalle St, Ste 2025  
Chicago, IL 60654

**Fairview Capital Partners**

75 Isham Road, Ste 200  
West Hartford, CT 06107

**LM Capital Group**

750 B St, Ste 3010  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Long Wharf Capital LLC**

One Federal St, 26th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

**Palladium Equity Partners**

1270 6th Ave 31st Floor  
New York, NY 10020

**Pluscios Management**

1603 Orrington Ave, Ste 750  
Evanston, IL 60201

**Ramirez Asset Management**

61 Broadway, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10006