

To: TRS Reporting Employers  
Subject: **Important warning regarding TRS information and harmful practices**

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Dear Employer:

It has come to our attention that some financial services companies have communicated pension plan information to our members in ways that may be misleading, incorrect, and/or principally aimed at enhancing their own commissions. **These practices could be harmful to our members.** We have seen a number of emails and advertisements that lead with information about TRS presentations and counseling sessions and may not necessarily be in the best interest of our members.

Our agency will participate in outreach events with vetted, reputable vendors you have invited to visit your school system or place of business. This type of joint session, with vetted or other reputable vendors, is not the cause of concern, and we encourage our members to participate in them. **In our experience, well respected companies make a clear distinction of who they are and will invite us to speak in front of your staff.**

We understand that information about the TRS pension plan is often covered during other companies' financial presentations – as it is an important part of retirement planning and is many times the largest source of retirement income for our retirees. This practice is fine as long as the information is accurately presented and done solely for the education of our members. However, we do not endorse or work jointly with companies using our branding, materials, or likeness in their advertisements, presentations, or counseling sessions. Currently there are several companies hosting events, titling them as TRS presentations and counseling sessions, and using our copyrighted material without our permission.

**The best source of information about the TRS pension plan is located on our website, [www.trsga.com](http://www.trsga.com), in our publications, and is communicated best by our customer service staff.** If you receive any solicitations that you are unsure about, please forward those to [trsevents@trsga.com](mailto:trsevents@trsga.com) or give us a call at 404-352-6500 and we can verify if we are participating in that event or not. If you suspect an unethical

practice or notice an unauthorized use of TRS material, please notify us as soon as possible.

To reiterate the TRS resources available to you and your members, please see the options below:

- Contact us if you receive solicitations you are unsure about at [trsevents@trsga.com](mailto:trsevents@trsga.com) or 404-352-6500
- Schedule an official TRS workshop or counseling session: <https://www.trsga.com/employer/hosting-a-trs-event/>
- Watch TRS videos and listen to TRS podcast episodes: <https://www.trsga.com/multimedia/>
- Download and read the Member's Guide and other TRS publications: <https://www.trsga.com/publications/>

Thank you,  
Teachers Retirement System of Georgia

Teachers Retirement System of Georgia

Main: 404-352-6500 | [www.TRSGA.com](http://www.TRSGA.com) | Toll-Free: 800-352-0650