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LOCAL PENSION PLAN STANDS OUT AMONG ITS PEERS, EARNS INDUSTRY HONOR

The San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association (SBCERA) has been named "Small Public Plan of the Year" by a leading financial publication.

SAN BERNARDINO, CA—The San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association (SBCERA) received some welcome news last week when it was selected *Small Public Plan of the Year* at the *Institutional Investor's* 8th Annual Hedge Fund Industry Awards held in New York City.

[Institutional Investor](#) is an award-winning, global financial news magazine. The publication hosted its [8th Annual Hedge Fund Industry Awards](#) on June 21, 2010 to recognize those public and private investment funds, consultant firms, and individuals whose innovation, achievements and contributions stood out in 2009.

"In a time plagued by unprecedented challenges and economic uncertainty, it's truly an honor to receive this esteemed award," said Ellen Weisser, Chair of the SBCERA Board of Retirement. "This is a tribute to the amazing dedication and resilience exhibited by my fellow board members and SBCERA staff as we strive to keep our fund strategically positioned for steady growth."

The 8th Annual Hedge Fund Industry Awards selected SBCERA as the Small Public Plan of the Year based on its 2009 investment returns, long-term performance and overall ability to construct and manage a hedge fund portfolio. The Small Public Plan of the Year category included public investment funds with less than \$10 billion in assets. SBCERA currently manages a fund of more than \$5 billion. As of the last quarter ending March 31, 2010, SBCERA's investment fund had grown by 10 percent and earned approximately \$498 million for the fiscal year.

"We cannot deny that the last couple of years have been among some of the toughest we have ever faced," said Timothy B. Barrett, SBCERA Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer. "We've made significant strides, and I remain optimistic about the future of our fund as we adhere to a disciplined investment process focused on prudent and strategic principles that ensure the safety and security of the fund for our members and plan sponsors."

The [San Bernardino County Employees' Retirement Association \(SBCERA\)](#) provides its more than 30,000 members and their beneficiaries with retirement and related benefits and services which they have earned, commensurate with their years of service and compensation. The Board of Retirement's responsibilities and functions are governed by the applicable provisions of the California Government Code, along with the bylaws and regulations of SBCERA. It is the responsibility of those charged with administration of the Association to diversify the investments of the system so as to minimize the risk of loss and to maximize the rate of return.

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