

**CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT
THIRD MEMBER
ACERA BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

GEORGE WOOD

Alameda County Prosecutor

I am seeking election to the Alameda County Retirement Board because I believe in the absolute necessity of a strong retirement fund. For most employees of Alameda County, retirement benefits will be their major source of income once they leave employment, and it is imperative that ACERA continue to pursue prudent investment strategies, which, in turn, enables administration of maximum benefits to employees upon retirement.

I have been an employee of Alameda County and a general member of ACERA for nearly twenty years, with two years of experience at the Internal Revenue Service, prior to my employment with the District Attorney's Office. My experience with the IRS includes counseling troubled businesses; and while at the District Attorney's Office I have prosecuted a wide variety of crimes, including multi-million dollar fraud, as well as unfair business practices. Through the course of my employment, I have always been proud of the fact that I am a public servant, and have been honored to work for a county employer that gives its attorneys the discretion to follow the decisions that they believe are the right ones on behalf of the public. I am now anxious to devote myself to the position of ACERA Trustee in order to serve the members of ACERA.

As your elected representative, I will never lose sight of the fact that the first and foremost purpose of ACERA is to serve the membership. Current funding levels allow ACERA to administer both, vested and non-vested benefits, however poor economic performance, or depletion of the Supplemental Retiree Benefit Reserve can endanger the funding of non-vested benefits (such as retiree health benefits), and those funding sources must be safeguarded, so that in poor economic times the services administered by ACERA remain in place; and efforts must be made for the growth of the Retirement Fund, so that in better economic times ACERA has the ability to support enhanced benefits for the membership.

Endorsements:

District Attorney Thomas J. Orloff

Alameda County Management Employees Association

Alameda County Public Defender's Office-Professional and Technical Engineers Local 21 AFL-CIO

Current ACERA Retirement Board Members:

Dale Amaral, Elizabeth Rogers, Liz Koppenhaver

Former ACERA Retirement Board members Trevor White, Robert Chambers

Former ACMEA President Joe Thomas

**(This Candidate Statement is presented as submitted by the Candidate,
subject to the guidelines on font size, uniformity, boldness and ballot designation.)**