

2021 COOK COUNTY ANNUITANT CANDIDATE STATEMENT

FOR THE TRUSTEE ELECTION TO BE HELD OCTOBER 27, 2021

- **Candidate Name:** Kulmeet S. “Bob” Galhotra
- **Position Sought:** Cook County Annuitant Trustee



Biographical Information: Dear Fellow Annuitants,
We have worked hard for our pensions and our state supreme court ruled in 2015 that our pensions are protected by the Illinois Constitution. As a lawyer who has practiced constitutional law for over 30 years, I will make sure our pensions are neither diminished nor impaired.

I defended the indigent accused in our juvenile, and felony criminal courts for almost three decades with the Public Defender. I was the president of AFSCME Local 3315, the largest union of attorneys in Illinois for nearly ten years, representing about 450 assistant public defenders in Cook County. For the last seven years of my career, I was in management as an Attorney Supervisor in the Homicide Task Force, where I tried more complex cases in addition to supervising highly skilled and talented lawyers, some who are now judges. My work experience demonstrates a commitment to justice and a legal career centered on constitutional rights.

After years of debate, the General Assembly passed legislation in 2013, which was signed by the Governor, reducing public sector pensions in violation of the Illinois constitution. I was always a strident opponent of such scapegoat plans because they were unconstitutional. The Sun Times, in an editorial endorsing my run for Alderman in 2015, said “Galhotra knows the city’s pension issues exceptionally well,” but I know the county’s pension even better.

I am also very proud to have the endorsement of AFSCME Council 31 and SEIU Local 73.

With your vote, it would be my honor to represent you and our annuitant interests as a trustee of the Cook County Pension Fund.

Sincerely,

Kulmeet S. “Bob” Galhotra