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After 31 Years, a CEO Looks Forward to a Retirement of His Own

An Empire State provider's exiting chief tells **401kWire** that he anticipates a laid-back departure with lots of room for pursuing creative passions.

As previously [reported](#), **Pentegra** CEO **John Pinto** plans to retire from the \$13-billion-AUA retirement plan provider at the end of June, and Pinto will be replaced by **Eric Wietsma**, currently senior vice president and chief operations officer at Pentegra. Both Pinto and Wietsma are based in Pentegra's headquarters in White Plains, New York, and also work out of the company's satellite office in Shelton, Connecticut.

A Pentegra spokesperson confirms that Wietsma's replacement in the SVP and COO roles is "to be determined," and that no other personnel shifts are currently taking place in relation to Pinto's departure.

"I've been here for thirty-one years, and I think this organization is well-positioned for the future," Pinto says. "I think it's the right time for me to step out into retirement and for somebody of Eric's caliber to assume my position when I retire in June."

Pinto notes that he "hasn't made any definitive plans yet" for what he'll do once he's left Pentegra, but he anticipates relaxing and taking up some hobbies. He's looking forward to fishing, gardening, landscaping, and continuing to build a house.

As for what he's most proud of having accomplished during his time with Pentegra, Pinto explains, "We're really getting to be known as a fiduciary out there in the marketplace."

"We have an eighty-year heritage of being a fiduciary company, but over the last couple of years we've really emphasized the fiduciary role that we bring to our clients," he adds.

Over the next few months, Pinto doesn't expect anything too out-of-the-ordinary while getting Wietsma acclimated to the chief executive role. He lauds his successor as someone with "a wealth

of experience in the retirement industry" who needs little training for Pentegra's top slot.

"I think he's really going to do an exceptional job for Pentegra," Pinto says of Wietsma.

Pinto joined Pentegra in 1991 as a controller, later served as chief financial officer and COO, then worked his way up to president and CEO by 2013. Earlier, Pinto worked in the leasing division for MetLife as an assistant controller. He is an alumnus of King's College and a self-described avid Jets fan.

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[Back to Top](#)