



TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION

OF GREATER NEW YORK • AFL-CIO • LOCAL 100

Tony Utano
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Richard Davis
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LaTonya Crisp
Recording Secretary

Lynwood Whichard
Administrative VP

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Brothers and Sisters:

Earlier this year, I was greatly honored to be named by the Local 100 Executive Board as Secretary-Treasurer, to succeed Brother Earl on his retirement. I have also assumed his role as Safety Director.

Today I am writing to inform you of two significant deadlines that affect our members who were part of the rescue and recovery effort during and after the attack on America at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Over 3,000 transit workers were part of that effort. To our knowledge, approximately 350 members have developed serious illnesses stemming from their service at Ground Zero. Dozens have died. Both the State and the Federal Government have put in place programs to compensate those workers who have these conditions.

This letter is for our active members who were part of the rescue and recovery effort. If this doesn't mean you, you may know someone who falls into this category – a friend or family member.

There is a firm deadline of September 11 of this year – 21 years after 9/11 – to file a Notice of Participation Form (Form 622) with the New York City Employees Retirement System (NYCERS) or a MaBSTOA Notice of Participation form with the MaBSTOA Pension Plan. Why is this important?

First, if someone becomes disabled from a qualifying 9/11 WTC condition – such as a cancer -- while in transit service, this means that person can apply for a tax-free, accidental disability pension benefit.

Second, if you are already retired and become disabled from such a condition, you may re-apply to reclassify your pension benefit to a tax-free disability pension benefit.

Third, if you die of such a condition, your beneficiaries may be eligible for an accidental death benefit.

All of these benefits are only available if you file the 622 “Notice of Participation” Form with NYCERS or the MaBSTOA form. You can get these forms by going to the NYCERS website at www.nycers.org, and here is the direct link: <https://www.nycers.org/nycers-notice-participation-form-622>.

For MaBSTOA members, here is the link: http://www.twulocal100.org/sites/twulocal100.org/files/mab-stoa_notice_of_participation_fill-in.pdf

There is also a firm deadline to file a Registration of Participation in the World Trade Center Rescue and Recovery and/or Clean Up Operations with the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. This is a form called a WTC-12.

You can get this form at this link: <http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/forms/wtc-12.pdf>

Workers Compensation may provide medical care and lost wages for a 9/11 illness.

This was and remains a safety issue for transit workers. I want to make sure that you are advised of your benefits and understand how to make sure you obtain them. If you have questions, please call the Union Hall and tell the Receptionist you are calling about 9/11 benefits.

Thank you for your attention and take care on the job.

With fraternal greetings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Davis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Davis
Secretary-Treasurer
Safety Director