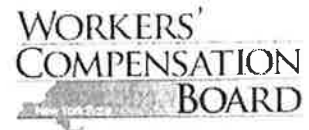




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STATE OF NEW YORK
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
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ROBERT E. BELOTEN
CHAIR

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June 6, 2013

New Administrator for World Trade Center Volunteer Fund

This notice is to advise you that effective June 24, 2013, Triad Group LLC will take over the management of your World Trade Center Volunteer claim. **This will not change or impact your current benefit payments or health care services.** Triad will be responsible for issuing benefit checks, paying providers, and dealing with all other claim related issues. Triad will follow the same flexible rules that apply to claims under the WTC Volunteer Fund.

Gretchen Finch of Triad is the point of contact for all WTC Volunteer Fund claims. Please direct all communication and correspondence to Gretchen Finch at the following address:

Gretchen Finch, Claims Adjuster, Triad Group 185 Jordan Rd Troy, NY 12180	Phone: 1-800-337-7419 x112
	Fax: 1-866-617-7585
	Email: GFinch@triadgate.com

There should be no interruption in your benefit payments. However, as with any transition, some questions or issues may arise. Please contact Gretchen directly with any questions or issues. The Board will work closely with Triad throughout the transition to address questions, resolve issues, and ensure prompt delivery of all benefits.

For more information about the WTC Volunteer Fund and the transition of claim management to Triad, please visit the Workers section of the Board's website at www.wcb.ny.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation during this transitional period.

Zadroga Act

On January 2, 2011, President Obama signed the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act. The Zadroga Act provides funding for:

- health care programs treating those affected by the 9/11 events, and
- payment to those injured or killed as a result of 9/11, including rescue, recovery, and clean-up efforts

You are strongly encouraged to apply for benefits under the federal Zadroga Act.

WTC Health Program

The Zadroga Act establishes the WTC Health Program, which funds networks of specialized medical programs. These four programs monitor and treat those with 9/11 related conditions.

- **For Responders:** The World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program, <http://www.cdc.gov/wtc/clinics.html#resp>
- **For Survivors:** NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation WTC Environmental Health Center <http://www.cdc.gov/wtc/clinics.html#surv>
- **For NYFD Personnel:** The Fire Department of New York (FDNY) Responder Health Program, <http://www.nyc.gov/html/fdny/insider/bhs/wtcmm/index.shtml>
- **The National Program:** The WTC Health Program has a nationwide network of clinics with providers across the country for responders and survivors living outside the New York City metropolitan area. For more information, call 1-888-982-4748.

The WTC Health Program provides free medical services by health care professionals who specialize in 9/11-related conditions. They are very familiar with the administrative processes relating to workers' compensation and the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund. More information about the WTC Health Program is available at the CDC World Trade Center Health website (www.cdc.gov/wtc) or from the WTC Health Program at 1-888-WTC-HP4U (1-888-982-4748).

Volunteers and other WTC-related claimants should apply for benefits under the WTC Health Program. Unless Congress authorizes a new appropriation, the WTC Volunteer Fund will likely be exhausted over the next five years. Volunteers who are eligible for the WTC Health Program will benefit from secure funding for their ongoing health care needs. They also help preserve and extend the life of the WTC Volunteer Fund to provide indemnity benefits not covered by the WTC Health Program.

9/11 Victim Compensation Fund (VCF)

The Zadroga Act also reopened the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 (VCF) to new applications. The Zadroga Act expands eligibility allowing more people, who suffered physical harm or death as a result of the events of 9/11 or its aftermath, to collect compensation from the VCF. Those who collect from the VCF must waive their right to pursue litigation to recover damages for the same physical injuries or conditions, but are allowed to receive workers' compensation benefits.

Information regarding eligibility requirements and the process for filing a claim with the reopened VCF is available on its website (www.vcf.gov) or by calling the VCF toll-free Helpline at 1-855-885-1555 (or 1-855-885-1558 for the hearing impaired). **The deadline to register with the VCF is October 3, 2013** for those individuals who knew (or reasonably should have known) that they had a WTC-related physical injury or condition as of October 3, 2011. Individuals who learned of their WTC-related physical injury or condition after October 3, 2011 must register within 2 years of the date they learned or reasonably should have known this information for the first time. As long as you register within the relevant two-year window, you can submit your eligibility form online at any point during the VCF's existence (i.e., through October 3, 2016).

The New York City Bar Justice Center and certain law schools in the New York metropolitan area are offering free legal clinics for individuals who need assistance in filing a VCF claim. Those attending will be able to meet with an attorney who will provide information on the eligibility process and will assist in filling out the eligibility form. To register or request more information on available clinics, please call the VCF Helpline at 1-855-885-1555.