

Greetings to our FDNY Retirees,

The below, and attached, are reminders about the WTC Health & Compensation Programs. This is the type of information I would like to get out to your members, and your retirees who might qualify. Please feel free to share this with others, including our Brother and Sisters in the police departments. Call me with any questions or concerns.

You do not have to be sick or ill to be in the program. You would have to download an application from <https://www.cdc.gov/wtc/apply.html> or call LHI, who runs the WTC National Program, at 888-982-4748 to register for the program. A member would have to provide affidavits or other proof of their involvement. Once registered, any WTC certified condition would receive prescription benefits, medical treatment and testing without any deductibles or copays.

Not everyone is making the connection between their **Cancer** and their exposure at the WTC site back in 2001/2002. The question is more complex because so much time has passed. Too often our members do not realize that their exposure to the toxic air (that the Government said was safe) around 9/11 might have contributed to their **Cancer**. It is important to realize it is a **presumption** due to the Zadroga Bill, if they meet the required exposure times (9/11 anytime, 9/12-9/14 - 4 hours, 9/15-9/30 -24 hours, and 10/1/01 – 5/30/02 a minimum of 80 hours). Note: Anyone with **Cancer** from their exposure should contact us immediately so that we can help them in their time of need. **Skin Cancer** is the most prevalent **Cancer** the WTC Health Program is seeing. Members should get themselves checked out for this.

Please look over the attachments and do not hesitate to call me with any questions or concerns. Help me take care of our firefighters and their families. It would be appreciated.

NOTE: Important deadlines –

- **February 1st, 2019**, awards might be lowered due to insufficient funding for all those in needs. Members should act quickly. (We are lobbying to get sufficient resources, and extend the deadline)
- There is no deadline for the WTC Health Program and it runs until 2090.
- The current 9/11 Victims Compensation Fund is scheduled to **close 12/18/20**. There is currently an effort to extend the deadline and get more resources for those adversely affected by their exposures.
- After the WTC Health Program Certifies a condition or illness, members would have two years to apply to the 9/11 Victims Compensation Program to be eligible.

Thank you for always looking out for your members. Stay well, and stay safe!

Bill Romaka, Barasch & McGarry
WTC Health & Compensation Outreach Coordinator
Office 212-385-8000
Cell 917-834-1414

9/11 Victim Compensation Fund Not Just for New York's First Responders

Here are some of the awards being given out to first responders around the country for the illnesses that they sustained in the service of our country at the World Trade Center Site

The VCF will only award compensation for economic loss to a claimant who has been found to be disabled as a result of a 9/11 certified physical illness (not a psychological illness). The disability finding must be made by an independent governmental entity (such as the FDNY, NYCERS, Workers' Compensation Board, or the Social Security Administration). Claimants who haven't been found to be disabled are generally not entitled to an award for economic loss.

Non-economic loss determinations have ranged from \$0 to \$340,000, depending on the severity of the illness, whether the illness is permanent, and whether the claimant has already been awarded compensation for the same illnesses in a prior WTC claim or lawsuit.

Economic loss awards are based on a claimant's age, work history and prior income. Where a claimant has received a disability pension, Social Security disability award, or WTC litigation settlement, the VCF award will be commensurately reduced. The range of awards is evidence that the VCF is making awards on a case-by case basis.

The following are some of the hundreds of award determinations issued to our clients who have been certified with WTC-related disabling illnesses ranging from minor respiratory illnesses to severe disabling cancers. They are listed for informational purposes only.

Wrongful Death Awards

Death due to 9/11-certified illness. Award includes compensation for income lost over a normal lifespan.

\$3,254,242 for wrongful death of a firefighter due to 9/11-related asthma/RADS

\$1,731,917 for wrongful death of a carpenter due to lung cancer

\$990,084 for wrongful death of a carpenter due to tonsil cancer

\$600,000 for the wrongful death of a Westbury Fire Department volunteer due to pancreatic cancer

\$537,642 for the wrongful death of a news cinematographer due to breast cancer

\$338,565 for the wrongful death of an FDNY firefighter due to COPD/chronic bronchitis/GERD

Disabling Cancer Awards

Compensation for 9/11-related cancers including income lost due to disability.

\$3,700,651 for a disabled NYC police officer due to leukemia

\$2,114,559 for a disabled stock broker due to multiple myeloma

\$1,934,316 for a disabled teacher due to esophageal cancer

\$1,368,869 for a disabled construction worker with lung cancer

\$1,365,415 for a disabled FEMA Search & Rescue task force member with colon cancer

\$1,098,050 for a disabled teacher with thyroid cancer and kidney cancer

Non-Disabling Cancer Awards

The following are some of the hundreds of noneconomic loss awards that the VCF has issued to our clients with non-disabling cancers and other WTC-related illnesses.

\$340,000 for a downtown office worker with skin cancer and larynx cancer

\$300,000 for a retired firefighter & iron worker with B-cell lymphoma & asthma

\$250,000 for a retired NJ firefighter with melanoma of skin

\$250,000 for a school administrative staff worker due to multiple myeloma

\$125,000 for a former high school student due to skin cancer

Disabling Non-Cancer Awards

Compensation for 9/11-related illnesses (other than cancer) including income lost due to disability

\$1,929,789 for a downtown elevator mechanic with asthma; Chronic rhinitis; Esophageal reflux

\$1,881,017 for a NYC firefighter with esophageal reflux; Barrett's esophagus; Asthma; Sinusitis; Obstructive sleep apnea

\$1,482,771 for a court officer with asthma; Chronic airway obstruction; Chronic sinusitis; Esophageal reflux; Barrett's esophagus; Chronic bronchitis; Obstructive sleep apnea

\$1,356,743 for a doctor with chronic rhinitis; Esophageal reflux; Other bronchitis and brachial neuritis; Thoracic/lumbosacral neuritis/radiculitis

\$1,270,072 for a NYC firefighter with asthma; Chronic rhinitis; Esophageal reflux; Obstructive sleep apnea; Sinusitis

\$1,251,768 for a NYPD officer with asthma; Chronic rhinitis; Esophageal reflux; Disease of vocal cords

Non-Disabling, Non-Cancer Awards

The following are some of the hundreds of noneconomic loss awards that the VCF has issued to our clients with non-disabling cancers and other WTC-related illnesses.

\$90,000 for an office worker due to chronic bronchitis

\$90,000 for a debris clean-up worker/laborer due to sinusitis; Obstructive sleep apnea; Chronic rhinitis

\$65,000 for a former teacher downtown due to severe asthma

\$35,000 for a construction worker due to asthma; Chronic rhinitis

\$25,000 for a former office worker due to asthma; Obstructive sleep apnea

WORLD TRADE CENTER-RELATED CANCERS

The **WTC Health Program** has linked **68 Cancers**, including skin cancer and prostate cancer, to the toxic dust. New illnesses are being studied and are likely to be added to the list below.

Deadline to register a claim with the victim compensation fund: **2 years from the date** of certification by the World Trade Center Health Program.

Please help spread the word.

CHILDHOOD CANCERS

- Any type of cancer diagnosed in a person less than 20 years of age.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

- Blood and Lymphoid Tissue** (including, but not limited to, lymphoma, leukemia, and myeloma)
 - Diffuse non-Hodgkin lymphoma
 - Follicular (nodular) non-Hodgkin lymphoma
 - Hodgkin's disease
 - Leukemia of unspecified cell type
 - Lymphoid leukemia
 - Malignant immunoproliferative diseases
 - Monocytic leukemia
 - Multiple myeloma and malignant plasma cell neoplasms
 - Myeloid leukemia
 - Other and unspecified lymphoid, hematopoietic, and related tissue
 - Other and unspecified types of non-Hodgkin lymphoma
 - Other leukemias of specified cell type
 - Peripheral and cutaneous T-cell lymphoma
- Digestive System**
 - Colon
 - Esophagus
 - Liver and intrahepatic bile ducts
 - Other and ill-defined digestive organs
 - Rectosigmoid junction
 - Rectum
 - Retroperitoneum and peritoneum
 - Stomach
- Eye and Orbital**
 - Eye and adnexa
- Female Breast**
 - Breast

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS (CONT.)

- Female Reproductive Organs**
 - Ovary
- Head and Neck**
 - Accessory sinuses
 - Base of tongue
 - Floor of mouth
 - Gum
 - Hypopharynx
 - Larynx
 - Lip
 - Nasal cavity
 - Nasopharynx
 - Other and ill-defined conditions in the lip, oral cavity, and pharynx
 - Other and unspecified major salivary glands
 - Other and unspecified part of the mouth
 - Other and unspecified parts of the tongue
 - Oropharynx
 - Palate
 - Parotid gland
 - Pituitary sinus
 - Tonsil
- Respiratory System**
 - Bronchus and lung
 - Heart, mediastinum, and pleura
 - Other and ill-defined sites in the respiratory system and intrathoracic organs
 - Trachea
- Skin (Melanoma and non-Melanoma)**
 - Malignant melanoma of skin
 - Other malignant neoplasms of skin
 - Scrotum
- Soft Tissue**
 - Other connective and soft tissue

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS (CONT.)

- Peripheral nerves and autonomic nervous system
- Thyroid**
 - Thyroid Gland
- Urinary System**
 - Bladder
 - Kidney
 - Other unspecified urinary organs
 - Prostate
 - Renal pelvis
 - Ureter

MESOTHELIOMA

- Mesothelioma

RARE CANCERS

Any type of cancer that occurs in less than 15 cases per 100,000 persons per year (called the "incidence rate"), based on data from 2005-2009 as referenced in Copeland et al., *Cancer in North America: 2005-2009*, published in 2012. Every cancer submitted for certification which is not individually identified in the above list is reviewed by the WTC Health Program to assess if it meets the definition of a rare cancer.



Call Michael Barasch or Lee London for a **Free Case Evaluation** or visit:

Phone: 212-385-8000

www.wtclawyers.com

BARASCH & MCGARRY

Lawyers For The 9/11 Community

Fact Sheet - World Trade Center September 11 Victim Compensation Fund (VCF)



\$7.3 billion available

Breaking News: Victim Compensation Fund Extends Eligibility Deadline for WTC-Related Cancers: people diagnosed cancers may register VCF claims within 2 years of the date that they were told by a governmental agency (i.e. such as the WTC Health Program, NYC Pension Board, or Workers Compensation Board) that their cancer was related to their WTC exposure. Claimants diagnosed with cancers years ago may be still eligible for compensation if they get certified now by the WTCHP.

EXTENDED TO

2020 december 18

The Zadroga Reauthorization Act extends the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund until December 18, 2020.

The Act also reauthorizes and fully funds the World Trade Center Health Program for 75 more years.

DID YOU KNOW

9 months of exposure eligibility

If you were in Manhattan below Canal Street, the Staten Island Landfill, the barge loading piers, or the routes of debris removal anytime between September 11, 2001 and May 31, 2002, you may be eligible for compensation based on the dates and number of hours spent within the exposure zone.

MORE THAN

70 types of cancers, including skin cancers and prostate cancer

Virtually all diagnosed cancers or interstitial lung diseases are eligible, as well as COPD and WTC-related traumatic injuries.

INCLUDES

8 different groups of eligibility

Rescue workers, recovery workers, cleanup workers, construction workers, survivors caught in the dust cloud, residents, office workers, teachers and students are eligible to be compensated based on number of hours within the exposure zones during the time period September 11, 2001 and May 31, 2002.



for more information:

If you think you might have a claim or just want more information, please call 1-888-FIRELAW (1-888-347-3529) or 212-386-8000 - the consultation is free. If we are not able to gain a recovery on your behalf - you pay no fee.

BARASCH & MCGARRY
11 PARK PLACE SUITE 1801
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007
Toll Free No. 1-888-FIRELAW
(1-888-347-3529) or 212-386-8000
www.wtc11lawyers.com

Our firm has recovered more than \$1 billion for the 9/11 community.