

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

NEW YORK CITY & VICINITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

Paul Capurso
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

David Caraballoso
President / Asst EST

Adam Harkin
Vice President / Asst EST



395 Hudson Street - 9th Floor

New York, N.Y. 10014

Phone: (212) 366-7500

Fax: (212) 675-3118

www.nycdistrictcouncil.com

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are reaching out to share an important opportunity about the **9/11 Victim Compensation Fund (VCF)**. In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks, many of our brothers and sisters took on the challenging and arduous task of leading the cleanup efforts at Ground Zero. As you may be aware, if you worked at Ground Zero or in the surrounding area during that time and have since developed an eligible 9/11-related illness, you may be entitled to compensation and medical benefits through the VCF program. You can review all the available benefits provided by the VCF at the following official site: <https://www.vcf.gov>.

To receive these benefits, individuals must submit legal documentation from a third party verifying their presence in the exposure zone during the designated period. Over the years, many members have reached out to the District Council in search of old shop steward reports to fulfill this requirement. Unfortunately, more than two decades later, some of these records are no longer available, and many of the companies that employed our members at the time no longer have records or have since gone out of business. In cases where such documentation is not accessible, claimants have the option of providing an eyewitness affidavit to support their claim.

To assist our members in securing the benefits they deserve, we are establishing a database of Carpenters who worked below Canal Street between September 11, 2001, and July 31, 2002, and are willing to serve as eyewitnesses for fellow members they recall working with or seeing in the area. Those who choose to participate will have their names and email included in a list accessible to Carpenters applying for 9-11 VCF benefits. Members seeking eyewitness testimony for their VCF claims will be able to review the list and reach out to those they remember working alongside or have their legal representative reach out.

If you worked in the affected area during the specified period and you are willing to have your contact information (name, local number, and email address) listed on the database and shared with fellow members and/or their legal representatives for the purpose of providing an eyewitness affidavit to the 9/11 VCF, please click on this link: <https://nycdistrictcouncil.com/9-11-vcf-applicants/>

If you are a VCF applicant who wishes to access the database, you are required to include your contact information and related 9-11 work details in the database by filling out the form on the link: <https://nycdistrictcouncil.com/9-11-vcf-applicants/>

We deeply appreciate your dedication and service, particularly during the difficult days following the attacks. Your willingness to support your fellow members in this effort is invaluable.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Capurso', written in a cursive style.

Paul Capurso
Executive Secretary-Treasurer