

UNITED ASSOCIATION

of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

Founded 1889

UA Local Union: Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 777

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Subject:

COVID-19 VIRUS

March 16, 2020

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In these uncertain times, I wanted to reach out to you personally about the situation surrounding novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Protecting the health and safety of our members has always been and continues to be in the forefront of my mind. The Officers of Local 777 have been holding ongoing discussions with the Mechanical Contractors Association of Connecticut, The Connecticut State Building and Construction Trades Council and Connecticut Construction Industries Association to ensure that all of our members have access to soap and running water on all jobsites for frequent handwashing or provide hand sanitizer when soap and running water aren't available.

Effective immediately, the JATC Training Center will temporarily suspend all operations until further notice. This will include the monthly retirees meeting and March's union meeting, but we will continue to monitor the situation and keep you updated. We realize this creates hardship for all. This action is precautionary and at this time, we have no indication of anyone having come to the Training Center that is affected by the COVID-19 virus.

In light of the recent developments, I would encourage you to add the following link to your web browser's bookmarks: www.cpwr.com/covid-19. You will find additional links with more information on COVID-19 from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), OSHA and NIOSH. The CDC recommends some everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases including influenza and COVID-19.

- Frequently wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60% -95% alcohol, if soap and water are unavailable.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a flexed elbow or tissue when sneezing or coughing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has a fever or cough.
- Don't shake hands when greeting others.
- Stay at home if you are sick.
- Seek early medical help if you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, and share your travel history with healthcare providers.

Following the preventive actions outlined by the CDC will help safeguard your health and the health of your family. Also, to limit your exposure to sick individuals, I would suggest that you utilize our **Live Health Online** program for non-emergency illnesses. **Live Health Online** is a live video interaction between you and a trusted, board-certified doctor. You will find primary care doctors such as Family Practitioners, General Practitioners, Internal Medicine and Pediatricians. You can use Live Health Online for topics such as colds, allergies, urinary tract infections, bronchitis and many other illnesses. An online visit eliminates wasting time



traveling to an urgent care center or retail clinic or waiting for an opening at a doctor's office. There are no costs or co-pays to participants who utilize this program. Information can be found online at www.livehealthonline.com or download the app to your smartphone or tablet.

Instructions - How to Use Livehealth Online.

- Download the "Livehealth Online Mobile" app from Apple or Google
- Register for an account. The insurance to select from the dropdown menu is "Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield". The insurance ID is the identification number from your insurance card (make sure the number ends with three zeros or it will not work. Example PTH00****000).
- Once logged in you would select "Medical" or the appropriate box and then select a doctor from the list

We encourage our Members to pay their dues online through the Local 777 website, or send them by mail in order to protect yourself and our staff from unnecessary contact. Because the situation is so fluid and is changing by the minute, we will be updating members with any new developments and information on our website, Facebook page, and through email.

Enclosed is a brochure addressing frequently asked questions on how to collect unemployment benefits during this National crisis.

Please don't hesitate to contact me, or your officers to share your thoughts and ideas on the issues of concern to you.

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