

Dear WTC Responder,

I am writing to alert you to an upcoming registration deadline for the **September 11th Victim Compensation Fund**, commonly known as the “**VCF**”, and to clarify who the deadline applies to and where you can find more information. While the VCF is a separate program from the WTC Health Program, some WTC Program members may also be eligible for the VCF.

As you remember, the “*Never Forget the Heroes, James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act*” was signed into law in July 2019. That legislation fully funded the VCF and authorized it to accept claims until 2090 so that eligible 9/11 responders and survivors who suffered physical illnesses from their exposure to toxins can apply for the financial compensation they deserve.

There have been a lot of press reports lately on the **VCF July 29, 2021**, registration deadline, and I want to take this time to make sure you have the most accurate information. Below is a quick synopsis of the July 29, 2021, registration deadline. Registration with the VCF is **separate** from enrollment in the WTC Health Program. VCF registration preserves your right to file a VCF claim in the future. Additional detailed information can be found at <https://www.vcf.gov/deadlines>.

The July 29, 2021, registration deadline applies only to those WTC Health Program members who meet the following criteria:

1. You were certified by the WTC Health Program for a 9/11-related physical health condition **on or before** July 29, 2019, and you have not yet **registered** with the VCF.
2. You are registering to file a claim for an individual who you believe died of a 9/11-related physical health condition **on or before** July 29, 2019, and the individual or his/her representative **has not already registered** with the VCF.

The July 29, 2021, deadline provides an opportunity for claimants who missed their prior deadlines to register. If you are certified with a WTC-related health condition in the future, you must register within two years of your certification date.

Registration with the VCF is simple. You may register online at www.claims.vcf.gov or by calling the VCF’s Toll-free Helpline at 1-855-885-1555. If you are unsure of your VCF registration status,

the Helpline can assist you. More information is also available on the VCF website at www.vcf.gov.

This deadline does not affect any of the medical care you are receiving now or will be receiving from the WTC Health Program. Our Clinical Center of Excellence at Mount Sinai continues and will continue to provide medical monitoring and treatment to all of our 9/11 patients. We thank you for your support and hope to see you at your next annual medical monitoring appointment.

There are 8 Clinical Centers of Excellence in the New York Metropolitan Area (NYMA) with locations across NY and NJ.

There is also a Nationwide Provider Network to serve members outside of the NY Metropolitan Area.

Mount Sinai Clinical Center of Excellence has a long history of working with the NYPD and are happy to help you enroll in the Program and understand your options for care.”

For more information on the programs please visit:

World Trade Center Health Program at: www.CDC.gov/wtc 888-982-4748

Victim Compensation Fund: www.vcf.gov 855-885-1555

I am always here to assist with any questions you may have.

With Warm Regards,

Steven A. Wallace (NYPD PBA Delegate, Retired)

Outreach & Education Program Coordinator

World Trade Center Health Program Clinical Center of Excellence

Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health

Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Office/Cell: **646-584-7797**

Email: steven.wallace@mssm.edu