### PITTA & BAIONE LLP

Publication



HEALTH and COMPENSATION BENEFITS

**HANDBOOK** 



### PITTA & BAIONE LLP

9/11 Compensation Attorneys

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## THE FIRM

Pitta & Baione LLP is a team of attorneys and professionals brought together for a common purpose: to provide dependable counsel to deserving clients.

We represent 9/11 victims and their families seeking health and compensation benefits under the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act. We count among them our family members, our friends, and countless hardworking New Yorkers who share our values.

When we take on your case, it becomes our own. When we give you our word, we keep it.

RECENT AWARDS

\$3,012,800.76 \$1,950,900.00 \$1,192,481.33 \$1,109,363.93 66

Our case was somewhat complicated and no other attorneys wanted to take the case...substantial settlement with unbelievable speed.

66

Not only professional and knowledgable, but they took the time to actually talk to me and get to know me, I didn't feel like just another client, but family.

Leslie T.

Recovered
\$50+
million for 9/11 victims

Lobbied for \$12+
billion in funding



VINCENT F. PITTA MANAGING PARTNER

Mr. Pitta is a labor lawyer in practice for over 40 years and a lifelong champion for workers' rights. Throughout his career, Mr. Pitta has represented unions of police, fire, sanitation, corrections, and construction trades —all involved in 9/11 rescue and recovery efforts. Since 9/11, he has represented and counseled victims of the attacks in various capacities. As Managing Partner of Pitta & Baione LLP, Mr. Pitta continues his advocacy on behalf of 9/11 victims.



VITO R. PITTA
PARTNER
Mr. Pitta focuses his
practice on legislative
advocacy and monitoring.
He has successfully
lobbied for over \$12
billion in 9/11 benefits
to ensure victims receive
the compensation and
healthcare they deserve.



CHRISTOPHER J. BAIONE
PARTNER
Mr. Baione has
dedicated his entire
legal career solely
to representing 9/11
victims seeking
benefits under the
James Zadroga
9/11 Health and
Compensation Act.



MATTHEW J. BAIONE
PARTNER
Mr. Baione has a
background in litigation
with a particular focus in
assessing and developing
the quality of evidence.
He applies these skills
to advocate on behalf of
9/11 victims before the
September 11th Victim
Compensation Fund.



SALVATORE J. CASSANO
SENIOR ADVISOR
Hon. Cassano is
the former Fire
Commissioner of New
York City. Immediately
following 9/11, he
served as Chief of
Operations to rebuild
the FDNY, and advises
the firm on issues
related to 9/11 rescue
and recovery operations.



HON. JAMES
P. MOLINARO
SENIOR ADVISOR
Hon. Molinaro is the former three-term
Borough President of
Staten Island. He has served in government for over 40 years, and advises the firm on policy and government affairs.



YICHUN LUO
SENIOR CLAIM MANAGER
Mrs. Luo has worked
for the New York Police
Department and the
federal government.
She is multilingual and
holds a Master of Public
Administration in
International Inspection
and Oversight.

## BENEFITS AVAILABLE



WTCHP

### **World Trade Center Health Program**

Fully Funded Through 2090. Physical and Psychological Conditions.

South of Houston Street -9/II/OI - 7/3I/O2

### **BENEFITS:**

- **+**Free healthcare for covered conditions
- **+**Monitoring
- **+**Treatment
- +Medication

### **COVERED CONDITIONS:**

- +70+ Cancers
- **★**Aerodigestive Disorders
- **+**Lung Diseases
- +Acute Traumatic Injuries
- +Musculosketeal Disorders
- **+**Psychological Conditions

#### **ELIGIBILITY:**

**Exposure Groups** 

#### a. Survivors

Individuals present south of Houston Street and within a 1.5-mile radius from the former WTC-site in any capacity between 9/11/01-7/30/02 (area worker, resident, student, caretakers, visitors, etc.).

### b. Responders

Generally: Ground Zero; Fresh Kills; debris removal route (piers, barges, transfer stations); garages where vehicles were cleaned and rehabilitated; Medical Examiner's Office; temporary morgues.



VCF

### September 11th Victim Compensation Fund

Due to Expire December 18, 2020. Physical Conditions Only.

South of Canal Street -9/II/OI - 5/30/02

### **BENEFITS:**

- +Tax-free lump-sum compensation for physical conditions only
- +Noneconomic loss (pain and suffering)
- **+**Economic loss (temporary or permanent disability)
- +Medical expenses
- +Burial expenses

### **ELIGIBILITY**:

Individuals who meet WTCHP eligibility and were present in Lower Manhattan, south of Canal Street, between 9/11/01 and 5/30/02

### **TOTAL ALLOCATION:**

**\$7.3** billion

### **DECEMBER 18TH 2020**

Deadline for claim submission

WTCHP

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS CERTIFICATION

VCF

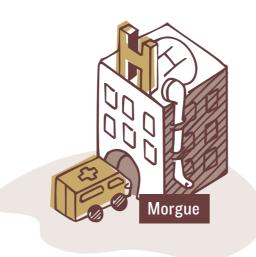
With limited exception, the **VCF** requires **WTCHP** certification of physical conditions to be eligible for compensation.

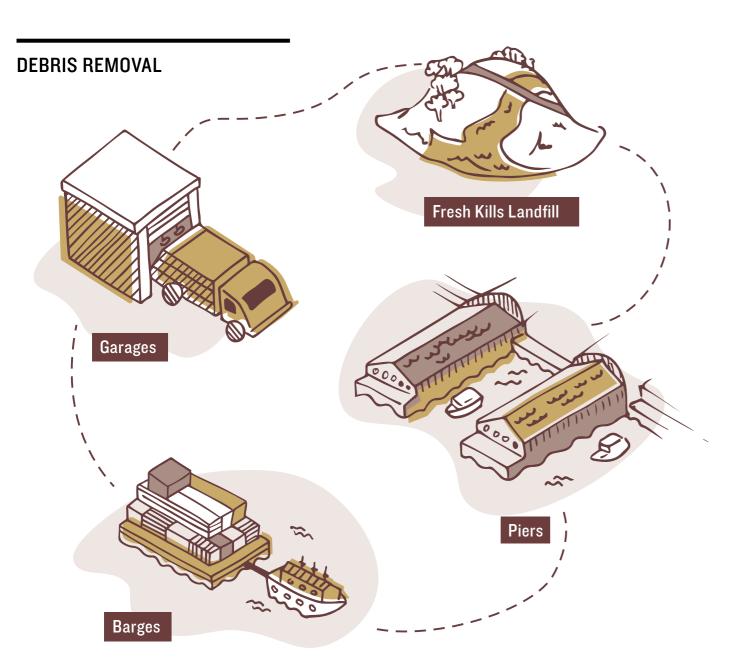
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Pitta & Baione LLP 9/II Health and Compensation Benefits

# EXPOSURE ZONE

If you were at any of the following locations between 9/11/01 and 7/31/02 you may be eligible for free healthcare and compensation.





### **LOWER MANHATTAN**





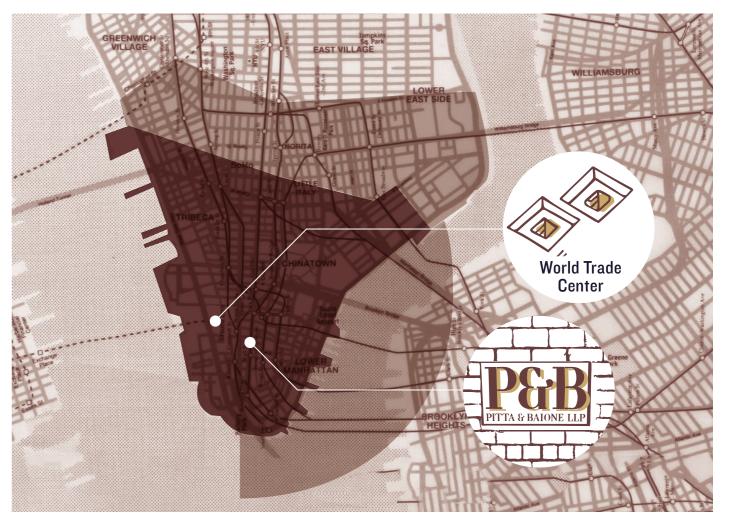






Below Canal Street (VCF)

Below Houston Street (WTCHP) and I.5 miles radious from WTC into Brooklyn



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9/II Health and Compensation Benefits

# PHYSICAL CONDITIONS CAUSED BY 9/11

The WTC Health Program has established a list of physical conditions caused by 9/11 toxins exposure. The list is subject to change as research develops. For example, cancer was not recognized as a 9/11-related condition until 2013. WTCHP-certified physical conditions are eligible for both free healthcare and compensation.



### 15 MOST COMMON 9/II CANCERS

- **01.** Non-melanoma skin
- 02. Prostate
- 03. Melanoma of skin
- **04.** Thyroid
- **05.** Breast Female

- D6. Lymphoma
- **07.** Lung/Bronchus
- 08. Kidney
- 09. Leukemia
- 10. Colon

- II. Bladder
- 12. Myeloma
- 13. Oropharynx
- 14. Rectum
- 15. Stomach

Source: WTC Health Program

### **NON-CANCER CONDITIONS**

## Aerodigestive Disorders and Lung Diseases

- Asthma
- Chronic Cough Syndrome
- Chronic Laryngitis
- Chronic Nasopharyngitis
- Chronic Respiratory Disorder
- Chronic Rhinosinusitis
- Gastroesophageal Reflux Disorder ("GERD")

(persistent heartburn)

- Interstitial Lung Diseases (e.g., sarcoidosis, asbestosis)
- Reactive Airways Dysfunction Syndrome (RADS)
- Sleep Apnea
- Upper Airway Hyperreactivity
- COPD

### If treated on or before September 11, 2003

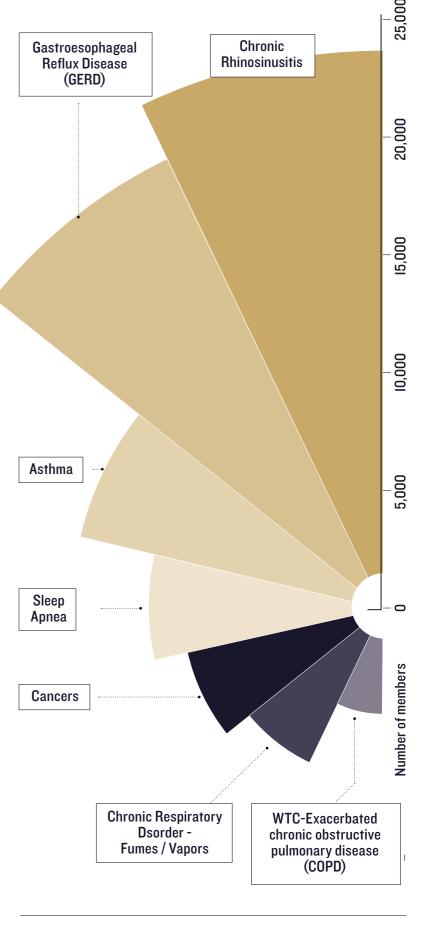
Responders and survivors who received treatment for a WTC-related acute traumatic injury on or before September 11, 2003 are eligible for coverage. Examples include:

- Eye Injury
- Burn
- Head Trauma
- Fracture
- Tendon Tear
- Complex Sprain

## Musculoskeletal Disorders (Responders only)

Responders who received treatment for a WTC-related musculoskeletal disorder, such as carpal tunnel syndrome or lower back pain, on or before September 11, 2003 are eligible for coverage.

### TOP PHYSICAL CONDITIONS



Individual members may have certifications in more than one category

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## 9/11 CANCER

The 9/11 cancer rate soared 3800% from 2013 to 2018, with over 10,000 total diagnoses. However, the true cancer rate may be even higher as over 80% of the 500,000 individuals exposed to 9/11 toxins are unaccounted for.

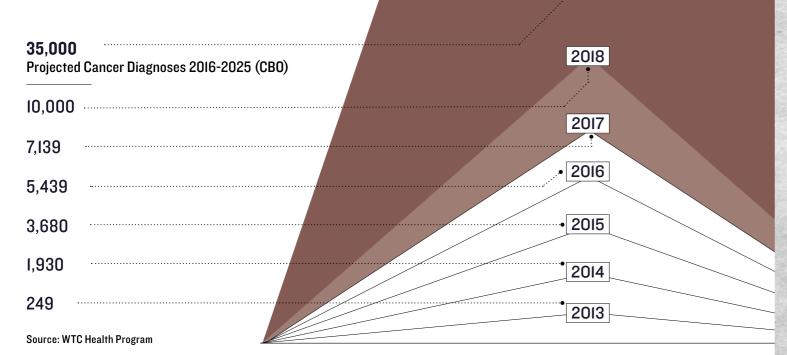
Less than 20%

of all exposed to 9/11 toxins are accounted for

Over

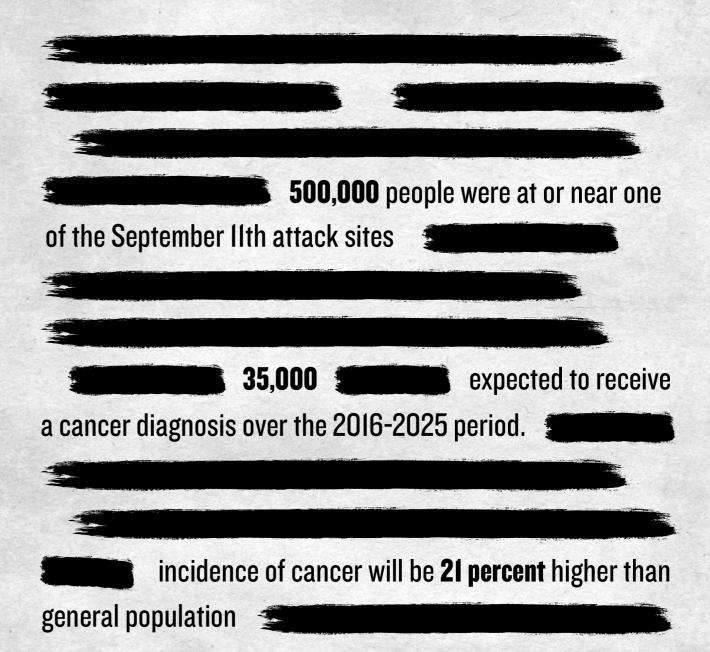
10,000

people diagnosed with 9/11 cancer



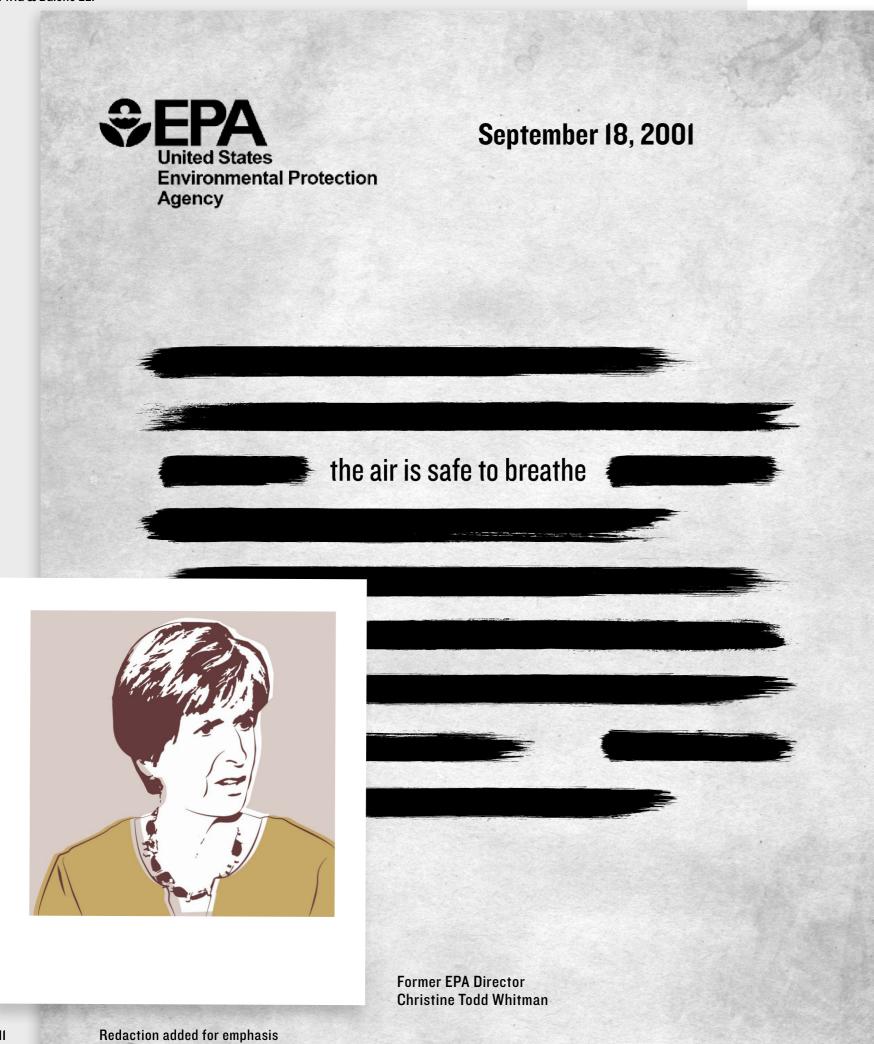
2025





**November 10, 2015** 

9/II Health and Compensation Benefits





When EPA made a September 18 announcement that the air was 'safe' to breathe, the Agency did not have sufficient data and analyses to make the statement.

**AUGUST 21, 2003** 





# 9/11 TOXINS: BY THE NUMBERS

The fallout from 9/11 has been compared to Chernobyl and Fukushima.

66

The debris pile acted like a chemical factory. It cooked together the components of the buildings and their contents, including enormous numbers of computers, and gave off gases of toxic metals, acids and organics for at least six weeks.

Thomas Cahill, Atmospheric Scientist

Source: The Environmental Impacts of the

World Trade Center Attacks. A Preliminary Assessment, Natural Resources Defense

Council, February 2002.

### **16** ACRE SITE

burned for **99 days** 

300+
tons of asbestos

## hundreds

of miles of wires
containing
polyvinyl chloride



130,000 gallons of transformer oil

90,000 liters of jet fuel

23,000
mercury containing light bulbs

1.2m tons of building material and contents which burned at temperatures close to

2,000 degrees Fahrenheit



**50,000**personal computers
(each of which included mercury and lead)

300 mainframe computers

**12,000**miles of electric cables containing polychlorinated biphenyls

# 9/11 VCF TIMELINE

Over \$7.3 billion in compensation has been allocated to the 9/11 VCF. Over half has been paid out to victims. The fund is due to expire on December 18, 2020.

2001

SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

Christine Todd Whitman declares air safe to breathe

2002

**MAY 30**<sup>TH</sup>

Ground Zero cleanup ends

2011

FEBRUARY IST

James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act signed into law

\$2.775B

Initial funding

\$4.6B

Additional funding

2015

DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

Zadroga Act reauthorized 2017

2018

**AUGUST** 

\$4B

Compensation Milestone

2020

**DECEMBER 18TH** VCF deadline

1/3 of all VCF Funding paid in one year



Justice Delayed Justice Denied

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