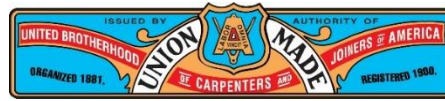


NORTH ATLANTIC STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

750 DORCHESTER AVENUE
BOSTON, MA 02125-1132



TELEPHONE (617) 268-3400
FAX (617) 268-0442

THOMAS J. FLYNN
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - TREASURER

March 14, 2020

The North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters is aware of the widespread concern among our members regarding the outbreak of the corona virus and is having extensive, ongoing discussions about appropriate responses. We are acting thoughtfully in the interests of our members, their families, our colleagues in the industry and the general public.

At this point, there have been relatively few projects closed in New England New York State. Those that have closed have most commonly been projects at schools or other facilities that have suspended all activity and operations. We do anticipate that eventually projects may close to limit the spread of infection or because of a direct impact of the virus on people employed at a site.

Though we do not have final answers for every issue, there is some important information we'd like to share.

Jobsite policies and procedures

The current viral outbreak is uncommon and presents unique challenges to our members, employers and industry. In order to create consistency and clarity regarding member employment with our signatory contractors, the union has engaged both independent employers and contractor associations that represent many employers during bargaining. Those conversations will continue throughout the weekend and early next week. We hope to reach and announce agreement on necessary policies and procedures very soon.

Union operations

Members should limit visits to local union halls as much as possible, including paying dues online or by mail, if possible.

The quarterly regional council delegate meeting scheduled for March 28 has been cancelled.

The next regularly scheduled meeting in June will be held in at our training center in Millbury, MA. Monthly local union meetings will managed in two ways:

- It is recommended that local unions that do not have "Special Call" meetings this month for the purpose of nominating and electing delegates to the UBC national convention cancel their March meetings.
- Any local union that has a "Special Call" meeting this month for the purpose of nominating and electing delegates to the UBC national convention should hold their meetings. Business conducted at the meeting should be limited to only what is necessary. Additional wardens should be appointed to ensure members wash or sanitize their hands before entering the

meeting. Other measures to limit large, ongoing gatherings of members, such as using multiple entrances and exits should also be in place.

Training

All apprentice training sessions, pre-apprentice training sessions, skills upgrade classes, certification programs and informational sessions for apprenticeship programs throughout New England and New York are cancelled for at least the next two weeks.

Benefit fund offices

Our fund offices are currently developing contingency and response plans for staff and operations. Members are asked to limit walk-in visits to fund offices and conduct as much business as possible using email, online services or over the phone.

Being good union members

As union members, we feel a special sense of respect and solidarity with our Brothers and Sisters, especially those who have come before us and helped establish and maintain our union. We know that people of a certain age are susceptible to more serious symptoms and effects of this virus. In the coming weeks, we will be reaching out to our older, retired members and others at risk or impacted by the virus to assist them in any way we can.

We hope that the measures taken across the country and around the world will be sufficient to limit the impact of this virus. We urge our Brothers and Sisters to follow recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control in regards to preventative measures, testing and treatment in the event that they become infected.

Though carpenters and trades workers often pride ourselves on working through injury or illness, this is not the time to gut it out. There is simply too much risk. If you show symptoms or are exposed, please protect the health and safety of your Brothers and Sisters—and their families—and stay home from work. There are policies being developed at both the state and federal level to limit or eliminate the financial impact you will experience. We will provide more information on these measures as it becomes available.