



PEF *memo:*

TO: Council Leaders, Executive Board Members, Agency and Worksite Health & Safety Chairs, and Navigator Nominees in Regions 10, 11, and 12.

FROM: Vernetta Chesimard, Region 10 Coordinator
Jemma M. Hanson, Region 11 Coordinator
Dee Dodson, Region 12 Coordinator

DATE: October 7, 2008

RE: Worker's Compensation Navigator Training – Hosted by PEF Regions 10, 11, and 12.
TRAINING DATE: December 9-10, 2008.

LOCATION: Avalon Hotel Manhattan, 16 E. 32nd Street, New York, NY.

Registration and EOL requests must be returned no later than November 14, 2008.
EOL requests must be submitted to GOER by November 17, 2008.

The NYS AFL-CIO has developed an exciting training, called the Navigator Program, to train union representatives and activists to assist injured workers in “navigating” the workers’ compensation system. The PEF Health & Safety Department and Article 13 Workers’ Compensation Committee has offered a modified version of this program, including information on contractual benefits and civil service law requirements, to PEF members throughout the state. The Albany program is a continuation of the effort to establish a cadre of PEF representatives and activists who are willing to devote the extensive time involved in taking the training and assisting injured members. Therefore, we are asking the Council Leaders, E-Board members and H&S Chairs to nominate an appropriate number of candidates for this program. Please indicate your approval on the attached registration form, and forward a copy to each of your candidates for submittal.

The Navigator Program addresses the difficulties injured members may experience with worker’s compensation including:

- Establishing a claim;
- Receiving benefits on a timely basis;
- Getting surgery approved;
- Obtaining compensation for permanent partial disability;
- Restoring accruals;
- Getting appropriate alternate duty assignments;
- Preparing for Workers’ Compensation Board hearings;
- Civil Service Law Section 71; and
- Article 13 of the collective bargaining agreement.

PEF Navigators will assist members immediately after they have been injured, using the user friendly Navigator Workbook. The Navigator Program will not replace legal representation. The

Workers' Compensation Law is very technical and in many cases members may need an attorney or licensed representative whose full-time practice is workers' compensation.

Navigators must be fully committed and able to assist injured PEF members at the worksite. A critical part of the program is implementing a worksite specific plan in collaboration with the Division Leadership.

Please take advantage of this excellent opportunity to build PEF and bring new people into the union's network by nominating people who have previously not been involved.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination form or any issues in this memorandum, please contact Kathy D'Arminio at 518-257-6983 or Shawn Bobb at (212) 227-3132 x511.

A registration form has been included and **must be returned no later than November 14, 2008.** EOL has been authorized for 50 participants for both days of the training. To obtain EOL, PEF must submit a list of registrants to GOER in advance. *If you do not return the registration form with EOL preference marked by 11/17/08 you may not qualify for EOL.*

We wish to thank the PEF Membership Benefits Program for providing financial support to make this program possible.

cc:	Kenneth Brynien	Arlea Igoe
	Statewide Officers	Roger Scales
	Kathy D'Arminio	Steve Chamberlain
	Robert Carrothers	Jonathan Rosen
	Cliff Merchant	Pat Baker
	Joe Fox	Lou Matrazzo
	Art Wilcox	Tom Privitere
	Jim Kemenash	Marvin Moschel

The New York City Navigator class is scheduled for December 9-10, 2008 from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Avalon Hotel Manhattan at 16 E. 32nd Street, New York, NY 10016, telephone # (212) 299-7000.

Please submit your registration form by November 14, 2008.
****EOL list must be submitted to GOER by November 17, 2008.***