

NEW YORK CITY



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Lieutenants Benevolent Association

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

October 4, 2016

Dear Lieutenant:

The September Delegate and General Membership meeting was held on Wednesday, September 28th, 2016, at Riccardo's in Astoria, Queens Village. LBA President Lou Turco chaired the meeting and the following topics were discussed:

THE LBA MOVES INTO OUR MEMBERS' NEW BUILDING: I am extremely pleased to inform the membership that, after some delay, on Tuesday, September 19th the staff of the Lieutenants Benevolent Association, the Captains Endowment Association and the Superior Officers Council moved into, and are now operational at, our new building located at 40 Peck Slip. As I have mentioned before, this building is a unique and lasting testament of the Association and our members. The annual cost to operate and maintain the building will be significantly less than the rent (which was being raised) at our prior location. An additional major benefit related to owning this property is that the Association now has equity in a building which will eventually translate into additional benefits to pass onto our members. I am extremely appreciative of your constant support and confidence permitting us to realize such noticeable achievements for the Association and our members.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS, HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TRANSFER PERIOD: We have been advised by the New York City, Office of Labor Relations, Health Benefits Section that the 2016 Open Enrollment Period for New York City Employees will be as follows:

The Annual Health Insurance Coverage Transfer Period for **Retirees** will be from November 1st through November 30th.

The Annual Health Insurance Coverage Transfer Period for **Active Members** will be from October 11th through November 11th.

For Active Members, the Department routinely published an Operations Orders for the exact dates covering the Annual Transfer Period. The Operations Order should also include information on the Health Care Plans available, the costs, Procedures for Health Plan Changes, information for Retiring Members of the Service, Change of Dependents Submitted During the Transfer Period, and information related to Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA).

During Annual Health Insurance Coverage Transfer Period, Active and Retired members of the service may transfer from their present health plan into another City health plan, add or drop optional rider coverage, and add or drop a dependent.

To download a Health Benefits Application please click on this link, <http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/olr/downloads/pdf/health/health-benefits-application.pdf> The page link also includes additional information in regard to filling out and forwarding the form.

Active and Retired Members can visit the following link to view the current monthly rates for each available insurance carrier, <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/olr/health/summaryofplans/health-ratechart.page>

Please be aware that for most health insurance plans, i.e. GHI, the member does not need to purchase prescription drug coverage since it is provided by the Superior Officers Council Health and Welfare. However, Retired members enrolling in HIP must purchase, in most situations, the HIP Optional Rider for their prescription drug coverage since it is not provided by the SOC under this particular health insurance plan. If you are unsure as to whether or not you need to purchase the prescription drug coverage please confer with the SOC at 212-964-7500 (Option# 1).

MEMBERS WITH “HIP” CONTEMPLATING RETIREMENT: Lieutenants currently enrolled in “HIP” and planning to retire in the immediate future may wish to transfer into a different health insurance carrier, prior to retiring, during the Annual Health Benefits Transfer Period. We are encountering more and more of our Lieutenants currently enrolled in the Health Insurance Plan of New York (HIP) discovering that upon retiring they will be responsible to pay \$386.12 a month for the Prescription Drug Rider Cut Out (Family Coverage). This equates to \$4,633.44 a year for a non-Medicare covered family to retain the Prescription Drug Rider. In the past many of our members retained HIP upon retiring in order to preserve prescription coverage for their children. However, since January 1, 2009, retiree’s children are covered for prescriptions through the SOC Health & Welfare Fund. The SOC Optional Prescription Drug Rider costs, per year: 1 child = \$144 / 2 children = \$216 / 3 or more children = \$ 288. We do not endorse nor recommend any one health carrier over the other as each member’s needs and the needs of their families are unique. However, we believe it is our responsibility to make our members aware of costs associated with their health carrier choice.

OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD TO JOIN THE HEALTH CARE FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT (HCFSA): The Flexible Spending Account Open Enrollment is from September 19th through October 31, 2016, for Plan Year 2017. The Program allows City employees to deposit a portion of their pre-tax income into accounts maintained for certain health and dependent care expenses. The Health Care Flexible Spending Account (HCFSA) Program is a way to pay for eligible medical expenses (not covered by insurance) or dental, vision and hearing (not covered by the Welfare Fund) with before-tax dollars. By contributing to HCFSA, you not only plan for anticipated expenses but also reduce your gross income for federal and Social Security tax purposes. The end result is that your health care expenses are lower and you save on your taxes.

The Plan Year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Employees also can enroll mid-year only if a Qualifying Event occurs.

How much can I put aside in my HCFSA account?; The minimum contribution is \$260; the maximum is \$2,550. Coverage is extended to yourself, your spouse, and your eligible dependents.

This program pays for deductibles, co-insurance, and eligible out-of-pocket expenses. It covers medical, dental, vision and hearing expenses. You can thus be reimbursed for expenses such as (but not limited to):

- Braces
- Over-the-counter drugs prescribed by your doctor
- Physicals
- Prescription drugs
- Prescription frames/contact lenses
- Psychologist's fees

Interested Active members should contact the Flexible Spending Account Administrative Office at (212) 306-7760 for further information and / or to enroll in the program. You may download a “PLAN YEAR 2017 ENROLLMENT / CHANGE FORM FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS (FSA) PROGRAM” and get further information on the plan by clicking on the following link: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/olr/fsa/fsahome.page>.

WORLD TRADE CENTER NOTICE OF PARTICIPATION FILING REOPENED: On September 11th, 2016, Governor Cuomo signed into law Chapter 326 of the Laws of 2016, which reopens and extends the Notice of Participation filing deadline to September 11, 2018 for all members to file a sworn statement indicating participation in the Rescue, Recovery, and Clean-up

Operations. The LBA is currently working with the Police Pension Fund (PPF) to identify any of our members, actively employed by the Department on September 11th 2001, so that we may notify them directly to complete and submit a Notice of Participation to the PPF. Members who are in possession of verifying information are also encouraged to submit copies of such documentation to the Fund to be imaged into the member's file. To file a Notice of Participation, please download the form [here](#), complete the form and have your signature notarized. Notices must be received by the Fund by September 11, 2018. Please mail your completed Notice of Participation to the Police Pension Fund, to the attention of Calendar Prep, at 233 Broadway, 25th Floor, New York, New York 10279. To check if the Fund has a Notice of Participation on file, please click [here](#) and search for your tax identification number.

ELIMINATION OF HOME CONFINEMENT SICK LEAVE POLICY (PILOT PROGRAM)

IN EFFECT: As per our ratified contract with the City of New York, the members of the Lieutenants Benevolent Association are now covered by the stipulation related to the elimination of the home confinement regulations when out sick; mirroring the same agreements in place with the PBA, DEA and SBA. This enhancement was made at no cost to the membership. The pilot program provides that eligible employees, who request sick leave for an injury or illness, shall no longer be subject to home visitation and confinement, outside the hours of the employee's regularly schedule tour of duty, except where the convalescence for the injury or illness requires home confinement in the opinion of the Department's Medical Division, after conferral with the employee's personal physician.

LBA COMMAND MEET AND GREETES: As many of you may be aware, Steve Birbiglia, John Beattie and I have visited, and continue to visit, numerous commands to speak with our fellow Lieutenants on issues impacting them. We enjoy these opportunities to meet with our fellow members and to have the opportunity to bring them up to date on what is going on with the LBA and to hear from them what is going on in the different commands. I'd like to ask you to contact the LBA (212-964-7500 Option# 2) when you become aware of any venue where a significant contingent of Lieutenants will be attending, i.e. training, borough meetings, etc. We would like to take the opportunity at such venues to speak with a large group of our members. All I ask is that you contact the LBA (212-964-7500 Option# 2) with the date and the time of the meeting (please give enough advance notice of the meeting as possible), if the audience is composed of mixed ranks please arrange for a separate location where we can speak candidly, and let us know how many Lieutenants will be at the meeting so that we can provide lunch for them.

2017 PERSONALIZED LBA CARDS: Attached to this e-mail is an order form to submit requests for 2017 Personalized LBA cards. Each dues paying LBA member will continue to receive 5 generic 2017 LBA cards in late November / early December at no cost. The personalized 2017 LBA cards cost \$1.00 per card; all proceeds from the sale of the personalized cards goes to benefit the LBA's Charitable and Scholarship Fund. **We anticipate filling and forwarding Card orders in mid-November.** Order forms and samples of the cards are also posted on the "Home Page" of the LBA website, www.NYPD-LBA.org. The form includes all the information necessary to process your orders. If you have any questions in regards to this matter please contact Sal DelRosario at the LBA, 212-964-7500 (Option# 2).

LBA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS and FAMILY DAY AT MCU PARK: On Monday, August 1st, 2016, the LBA once again held our annual Family Day and Scholarship Awards presentation at MCU Park in Coney Island. The weather was beautiful and over 500 members and their families attended the event. The day included a barbecue with hamburgers, hotdogs, chicken fingers, soda and water. Everybody appeared to thoroughly enjoy the event. As is now customary the LBA presented our LBA Scholarship recipients with their awards. I was accompanied by former LBA president Tony Garvey and Marie Sullivan to help present the scholarships named in honor of Tony's son Brian and Maries' husband, and former LBA president, Tom Sullivan. I was also accompanied by Jimmy Higgins, former and longtime LBA Board Member / LBA staff Member and a World War II veteran,

to present the scholarship to the Second Place Female Scholarship Award, recently named in his honor. This year the LBA also presented a special scholarship to Trystan Mohamed, the son of Lieutenant Brian Mohamed; Brian passed away from a 9-11 related illness on March 25, 2009. Finally, I was accompanied by Lieutenant (Retired) Robert Price to present the scholarship he has so generously sponsored for the LBA. The LBA Scholarship Winners are:

Female Scholarship Winners:

1st Place – The Lt. Thomas R. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship: Gabrielle Gorgy Read, daughter of Lieutenant Nasser Gorgy, of the Intelligence Bureau.

2nd Place – The Lt. James R. Higgins Scholarship: Vanessa Belford, daughter of Ret. Lt. Jerome Belford, formerly of the 120 Precinct.

3rd Place Female: Amanda Larney, daughter of Ret. Lt. Bill Larney, formerly of the Detective Bureau.

Male Scholarship Winners:

1st Place - The Brian Garvey Memorial Scholarship: Brennan Lee, son of Lieutenant Kevin Lee, of Patrol Borough Manhattan North.

2nd Place: Gregory Matousek, son of Ret. Lt Albert Matousek, formerly of Transit Bureau, District 2.

3rd Place: Michael Bivona, son of Ret. Lt. Jerome Bivona, formerly of the Brooklyn South Narcotics Division

“LT. THOMAS R. SULLIVAN” MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING: On Thursday, August 25th, 2016, the LBA hosted the “Lt. Thomas R. Sullivan” Memorial Golf Outing at the Woodmere Country in Woodmere, New York. Proceeds from the Golf Outing benefit the LBA Scholarship & Membership Assistance Fund; this Fund enables the LBA to assist members’ eligible dependents to receive affordable educations and alleviate some of the unanticipated financial hardships experienced by members encumbered by catastrophic events. Over 140 golfers attended the event and the weather was picture perfect for the outing. Dinner followed the outing and some lucky participants walked away with some notable raffle prizes.

LBA HOSTS THE “LIL LIEU’S at the ZOO: On Saturday, September, September 16th, the Lieutenants Benevolent Association hosted its 2nd Annual “Lil Lieu’s at the Zoo” event at the Bronx Zoo. The weather was ideal and over 600 people, including members and their families, attended the event. It was obvious that everyone, especially the kids, had a great time at the zoo seeing the animals, wearing the specially designed “Lil Lieu’s at the Zoo” T-Shirts, enjoying the snacks and lunch provided, and delighting in the other activities included in the day’s schedule.

I want to thank everyone who participated in the event and those who assisted us in coordinating and running the event. I also want to especially thank LBA Staff member Jennara Cobb for her tireless efforts in planning this event and ensuring that every minor detail was sorted out so that our members and their children could enjoy the day.

TICKETS TO EVENTS AT LINCOLN CENTER: As many of you may have recently seen, we have sent out several e-mails announcing free tickets to attend different events at Lincoln Center. The LBA has partnered with Lincoln Center in the “House Cop” program; Lincoln Center has agreed to offer complimentary tickets to LBA Members to attend ongoing events. Please monitor you e-mails for future announcements/offering pertaining to these free events at Lincoln Center.

NEW LBA BOARD MEMBERS: To fill the vacancies on the LBA Board, created by the retirements of LBA Manhattan North Director Tom O’Neill and LBA Queens North Director Thomas Loeffel, I have appointed the following Delegates to these positions:

LBA Manhattan North Director, Christopher Cantelmi, Patrol Boro Manhattan North: Chris has over 18 years with the Department, six and a half years in the rank of Lieutenant assigned to Patrol commands and has served as an LBA delegate for the past four years. He has experience with the disciplinary units within the Department and the mechanizations of the disciplinary process. His Patrol experience and knowledge of the Department’s disciplinary processes make Chris an excellent choice to serve as the LBA Manhattan North Director.

LBA Queens North Director, Sean Dolphin, Patrol Boro Queens North: Sean has over 24 years with the Department, and has held the rank of Lieutenant for almost 11 years. He has served as an LBA Delegate for the past 7 years. Sean has consistently and conscientiously brought the concerns of Lieutenants assigned within Queens North to the attention of the LBA Board. He has proven himself to be a steadfast advocate for all the Lieutenants assigned to Queens North and for fellow Lieutenants in general.

UPCOMING LBA MEETINGS:

Wednesday, October 26th, 1800 hours, at Antun's

Wednesday, November 23rd, 1000 hours, Hudson Council K of C

Wednesday, December 14th, 1200 hours, El Caribe (LBA Holiday Luncheon)

NEXT MEETING: Join us on Wednesday, October 26th, 1800 hours, at Antun's in Queens Village, 96-43 Springfield Boulevard, Queens. **Seasonal flu shots will be offered by the Medical Division to those Active members wishing to participate; members must show their ID card to receive the vaccine (this year's seasonal flu vaccine also contains the H1N1 flu vaccine).** Hope to see you there.

Lou Turco
President

Dennis Gannon
Recording Secretary