



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

July 16, 2013

Mr. Keith Richter  
Fire Chief  
Orange County Fire Authority  
1 Fire Authority Road  
Irvine, CA 92602

Dear Chief Richter:

In 2001, in the aftermath of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks and the destruction of the World Trade Center, Orange County thoughtfully sent responders to help with rescue and recovery efforts. New Yorkers will never forget how the Orange County Fire Authority came to our aid when we needed it.

As we approach the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, many of those who survived the attacks and responded to them may now be facing health effects from their time at the World Trade Center. Together with our congressional delegation, New York City worked for many years to convince the federal government to respond to these issues. In 2010, we succeeded, and Congress passed the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

The Zadroga Act created two programs: the World Trade Center Health Program and the reopened September 11<sup>th</sup> Victim Compensation Fund. Both programs are open to responders from around the country. The WTC Health Program offers medical monitoring and treatment for covered conditions through a national network of providers. The September 11<sup>th</sup> Victim Compensation Fund is open both to responders who became ill, and to the loved ones of those who have passed away. These individuals can apply for compensation for economic and non-economic (pain and suffering) losses stemming from physical injuries.

Enclosed is a one-page information sheet about both programs. **For most of those eligible for compensation, the deadline to register with the Victim Compensation Fund is Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013.** For more information, please contact Jeffrey Hon, New York City's WTC Health Coordinator, at [jhon@health.nyc.gov](mailto:jhon@health.nyc.gov).

On behalf of the City of New York, thank you once again for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Bloomberg".

Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor