

Brothers and sisters,

I have heard from many of our members that their unemployment benefits are being delayed due to income levels. To clear this issue up, the member needs to do the following:

- Go on the Pennsylvania Office of Unemployment Compensation.
- Click on UC Live Chat to open a chat box and be connected with a representative.
- Once connected, tell the representative that your income level is over \$99,000 and you want them to verify your income.
- Give them your employer's name and let them know you are out of work due to COVID-19.

That will release your payments within 2-3 business days, according to the Department.

Other tips when filing your initial claim:

- If you are working for an out-of-state contractor, make sure you check that box or your application will get kicked aside.
- You can reach out to your State Representative to tell them you work at District Council 21 and are having issues with Unemployment Compensation. Click the link to get in contact with your State Representative in <u>Pennsylvania</u>, in <u>New Jersey</u>, and in <u>Delaware</u>.

If you are unable to get in contact with your State Representative, please give Tim Crowther a call at 267-294-9465.

I know many of our members are hurting right now and access to these benefits is critical for many of our families. The Unemployment Office is facing an influx of requests related to COVID-19, and the steps outlined above should help speed up the process.

Please let us know of any questions or concerns you have during this time. Your Union is always here to support members in the best ways we know how. For the most up-to-date information and resources from DC 21, <u>visit our COVID-19 page on the website</u>.

Fraternally, Joe Ashdale, DC 21 Business Manager / Secretary Treasurer