

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PIPE TRADES HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND PENSIONERS & SURVIVING SPOUSES PLAN SUPPLEMENT

TO: All Participants
FROM: Board of Trustees
DATE: July 2002
RE: Self-Pay Program Clarification and Spousal Enrollment

PLEASE INSERT THIS PINK COLORED NOTICE BEHIND TAB 2 OF YOUR SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION BOOKLET

Clarification of Self-Pay Program for Pensioners

As a condition of continued coverage, all Pensioners are required to self-pay at the rates set by the Trustees. Most Pensioners fulfill this self-pay obligation by electing to have the amount deducted from their monthly pension check. If you elect the deduction, the correct amount will be automatically paid each month to the Health and Welfare Fund, and your coverage under the Pensioners and Surviving Spouses Plan will continue.

If you do not authorize a deduction from your monthly pension check, you must personally make monthly payments directly to the Health and Welfare Fund in order to keep your coverage under the Pensioners and Surviving Spouses Plan. If you do not make these direct payments on time, you will lose your coverage permanently. Direct self-pay contributions are due by the 15th of the month before which coverage is desired.

Enrolling Your Spouse

It is most important that the Fund office have accurate information about your marital status. Your spouse will not be covered if you do not tell us that you are married and if the amount for single participants is paid to the Pensioners and Surviving Spouses Plan.

You informed us about your marital status at the time you retired and went on pension. However, if you married after your pension started, you need to enroll the new spouse in order to provide him or her coverage. If you marry on or after July 1, 2002 and if you do not enroll your spouse within 90 days of your marriage, your new spouse is not eligible for coverage by the Pensioners and Surviving Spouses Plan. To enroll a new spouse, please provide the Fund Office a new Enrollment/Beneficiary Form and the original certified marriage certificate.

Terminating Your Spouse's Coverage

If your spouse dies or if you are divorced on or after July 1, 2002, you must notify the Fund office within 90 days of the death or divorce in order to be eligible for a retroactive refund of your copayments for your spouse. Failure to notify will Fund office will prevent a retroactive refund.