



**UNITED ASSOCIATION of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing  
and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada**

**Sean Wyatt**  
Business Manager

**Joe Kocol**  
Financial Secretary

**John Ashley**  
Business Development

## **Journeyman Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local Union No.3**

April 3, 2020

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope that this finds you all healthy and well. We are still in the midst of some very trying times, challenging us all every single day! Unfortunately, there does not appear to be relief in the immediate future. Current projections show us reaching the peak of the virus in the next few weeks.

There was an instance that happened to one of our members recently that I want to make everyone aware of and clarify how this scenario should take place. One of our members received a phone call from "Cigna" saying that their insurance had expired and that they needed to purchase COBRA insurance. This was a potential scam, luckily our member didn't answer the call and called us to verify. Cigna will not call you dealing with eligibility or COBRA. If you have exhausted your hour bank, you will receive a notification by mail from Colorado Pipe Industry Trust Funds letting you know that you need to purchase COBRA. If there is any doubt concerning your health insurance, please contact us so that we can investigate it for you.

I will be sending a separate email today that contains a chart addressing the Families First Coronavirus Act, paid sick leave, paid family medical leave and unemployment insurance. This is a quick reference guide for what employees may or may not be eligible for.

The State and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are planning for 12,000+ temporary beds for the surge of the virus in Colorado. Some of the discussions have included hotels, sporting venues and warehouses for these temporary facilities. This work could definitely demand the skills our members possess to help facilitate these needs. I will pass on information as it becomes available.

We are still open at this point, with some modifications to work schedules so that we comply with the 50% workforce reduction. The schedule has no more than four people in the hall at once. If someone is not at the office, they have the capability of working remotely. We are doing our best to assist the needs of the members during this difficult period in our lives! I sent all of our contact information in a previous email but will list it all again today at the end of this email. If you call our cell phones, please leave a message! We are still inundated with spam calls. Once someone calls, I save the contact but typically do not answer unknown numbers.

I would ask that you keep your guard up, especially at this point in time, with the risk of cyber-crimes and scams. There is always the risk of these crimes but it seems it has dramatically increased now.

I had a conference call with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) to try and get some benefit questions answered. Unfortunately, there still needs to be a lot of guidance handed down by the Federal Government dealing with any federal benefits. The specific question was asked about voluntary quits, the answer we received is that each quit will be adjudicated by CDLE. There was no assurance that you will be able to collect unemployment benefits if you voluntarily quit.



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Joe has created a simple Word document for the new HRA company we are using and the app associated with the HRA. I will send that in a separate email as well so that you have that information.

Today the Governor made a recommendation that everyone has cover over their mouth/nose when out of their houses. He clarified that it does not have to be a "mask", it can be a fabric face covering that is homemade, bandanna or balaclava. This includes conducting essential tasks, grocery shopping and working.

Thank you for what you are doing and enduring during these times of uncertainty. It makes me extremely proud to be able to represent such a great membership.

Fraternally,

Sean Wyatt

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