

**We did our part to
keep America free!**

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Cold War Patriots is a division of Professional Case Management and not affiliated with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Updates & News

News from the Advisory Board

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH) held a two-day virtual meeting on December 8–9, 2020. Below are the major updates that were discussed. Their next meeting will be held on February 24th, 2021—unfortunately, after this newsletter went to print. To read a recap of that meeting, visit coldwarpatriots.org.

EEOICPA Ombudsman's Office Updates

Malcolm Nelson, EEOICPA Ombudsman, retired from the U.S. Department of Labor the end of November 2020 after 14 years of service. On November 20, 2020, Congressman Ed Perlmutter (D-CO) memorialized Mr. Nelson's contribution to the U.S. DOL and the Ombudsman's office in the Congressional Record. Cold War Patriots applauds the work Mr. Nelson did and will miss his expertise and empathy, and we wish him the best in the future.

The Office of the Ombudsman's primary responsibilities are to provide information to claimants and potential claimants, make recommendations to the Secretary of Labor, and submit an annual report to Congress outlining the numbers and types of complaints received. To contact the Office of the Ombudsman, email ombudsman@dol.gov or call toll-free at 1.877.662.8363.

Source: www.dol.gov/agencies/ombudsman

Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Updates

During the ABRWH meeting an update on the SEC was given. An SEC allows eligible claimants to be compensated without the completion of a NIOSH radiation dose reconstruction or determination on the probability of causation. To qualify for compensation as a member of an SEC class, a covered employee must have at least one of 22 specified cancers and worked for a specified period of time at one of the SEC work sites. For a full list of all SEC's visit: bit.ly/USDOLSECList.

Petitions that qualified for Board review:

- Pinellas, Florida Petition SEC-0256
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California Petition SEC-0221
- Y-12 Plant, Tennessee Petition SEC-0250

One petition is in the process of being qualified:

- Pantex, Texas Petition SEC-0258

The Advisory Board is currently reviewing petitions for:

- Savannah River Site, South Carolina Petition SEC-0103
- Los Alamos National Laboratory Petition SEC-0109
- Sandia National Laboratory, New Mexico Petition SEC-0188
- Idaho National Laboratory Petition SEC-0219
- Argonne National Laboratory, Idaho Petition SEC-0224
- Area IV Santa Susana, California Petition SEC-0235
- Metals and Controls, Massachusetts Petition SEC-0236
- DeSoto Avenue Facility, California Petition SEC-0246
- Reduction Pilot Plant, West Virginia Petition SEC-0253

Potential 83.14 Petition (for when NIOSH has detected they may not be able to reconstruct dose):

- West Valley Demonstration Project, New York

Source: www.dol.gov

NOTICE:

It has come to our attention that persons claiming to be from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) are contacting EEOICP beneficiaries and asking to visit them in their homes. Please know that U.S. DOL representatives will never come to your home, unless you initiate the request. If someone contacts you and they cannot prove their employment with the U.S. DOL, decline their offer of a visit as they are not a U.S. DOL employee and please call our Outreach Help Center, we can report this to the U.S. DOL for you.

Caring for your Family with Professional Case Management

Through the Energy Employee Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP) benefits you have earned, Professional Case Management (PCM) can help you receive the care you need to maintain your lifestyle. If a family member is caring for you at home, they may be eligible to be hired as a relative personal care attendant (RPCA) by PCM. They know you best and there is no one better to assist you with activities of daily living.

An RPCA is trained by PCM to provide non-skilled personal care and related homemaker services in the home. An RPCA functions under the direct instruction and supervision of a PCM supervisor and plays a vital role among the healthcare team. An RPCA will have 24/7 direct access to a Registered Nurse Case Manager. The Registered Nurse Case Manager is there to support and guide your caregiver through the simplest to most complex situations that may be encountered. They will provide increased awareness and knowledge of how to keep you as healthy as possible, improving your quality of life and ability to remain in your home. If your care needs ever increase, the Registered Nurse assigned to your case will work with you, your caregiver, and your physician to add additional services which could include Home Health Aides and/or Nurses.

An RPCA would be compensated for the care they provide. They could be paid to provide services such as assistance with grocery shopping, medical appointments, church and community activities, light housekeeping, and meal preparation. They may also qualify for employee benefits such as medical, dental, and vision insurance, ongoing training and coaching, and workers compensation should they be injured while performing their duties. PCM would pay state and federal unemployment insurance and handle all income tax withholding, so your loved one would not be surprised with a tax bill at the end of the year.



 **Professional Case Management**
Helping People Live at Home

At Professional Case Management, we value our clients and the caregivers we employ. We are passionate about the work we do and the clients who have entrusted us with their care. We welcome personal caregivers to join our team.

If you need assistance or have questions on how to apply for your EEOICP benefits, please call the Cold War Patriots Outreach Help Center at 1.877.335.0779.

CWP Events Update

Event Information

Here at Cold War Patriots we are excited about a new year as we can hopefully begin to host in-person events again in your area. We continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and how each state is re-opening, so that we can follow all necessary protocols to safely hold our events. We will be sure to alert you once we begin holding in-person events. Last April, we began hosting Virtual Events and recently added new content to the presentations.

Please join our Virtual Events from the comfort and safety of your own home by the click of a button. We host a variety of 25–50 minute virtual events, including Doc Talks hosted by an Impairment Doctor and Respiratory Health Talks presented by a Certified Respiratory Therapist. We have also continued our Town Halls for those who have a U.S. DOL white medical benefits card, pending claim, denied claim, or have never applied. **For dates, times and to sign-up, please visit coldwarpatriots.org/CWPevents or call our Outreach Help Center at 866.475.5919.**



Cold War Patriots Official National Day of Remembrance™ Recap

Thank you to all the Living Legends, their families and friends, who attended our virtual Cold War Patriots Official National Day of Remembrance™ event.

In 2009, we held the first official National Day of Remembrance and while this year looked different from years past, we were honored you were able to be with us at the 12th annual observance. Every year since 2009, Cold War Patriots has asked the United States Senate to introduce and pass an official Resolution honoring the men and women like you who have served our nation in building and maintaining our nuclear defense. On October 2, 2020, Congress passed the resolution for the 12th year in a row, designating October 30th as the National Day of Remembrance.

At this year's virtual Cold War Patriots Official National Day of Remembrance™ events, we heard from former workers, advocates, local dignitaries, the U.S. Department of Labor Ombudsman's Office, and the House of Representatives, who honored, remembered, and paid tribute to those who worked in the nuclear weapons and uranium complex. This year, as we do every year, we asked members of the U.S. Senate and Congress to join us for the event and pay their respects to their constituents. Nine Senators and nine Congressmen/women submitted videos honoring and recognizing the sacrifices you, our Living Legends, and our Fallen Heroes made to fulfill America's nuclear defense mission.

The names of our Fallen Heroes were shown, and we asked all viewers to light a candle in their honor. Each one of these heroes was a light that illuminated not only the lives of their families, friends and co-workers, but through their work, their light also lit our nation.

May we all meet again next year for the 13th Cold War Patriots Official National Day of Remembrance™. If you missed the ceremony, visit coldwarpatriots.org/NDR to watch the Encore Presentation now.

Everyday Patriots

Behind the Story



Bobby C.



Don D.



Linda P.



Dana B.



Carolyn W.



Larry W.



Billy Bob C.



Charlotte Gail H.



Bob R.



Carl H.



Johnny T.



John A.



Daniel B.



Lloyd S.

After learning about the lives of this year's fourteen Everyday Patriots, one thing is abundantly clear—their stories are uniquely their own, yet at their core they have a desire to help others. We will be highlighting the Everyday Patriots in our newsletter throughout the year, and this issue we would like to introduce you to Carl, Dana, Carolyn, John, and Daniel. This diverse group of former workers represents so many aspects of all our Cold War Patriots members. Their job titles range from secretaries, safety instructors, engineers, and lab managers. Together they have 167 years of experience as nuclear weapons workers!

We are humbled to know that they are active Cold War Patriots members and all have attended a CWP event where we were able to connect them to resources and educate them on Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (EEOICP) benefits. Carl, who worked at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant as a High Voltage Switch Yard Operator and an Occupational Health and Safety Instructor for 45 ½ years shared "CWP does a great job with issues, updates, and communication to nuclear complex workers. I also enjoy seeing my former co-workers at CWP events."

While Carl, Dana, Carolyn, John, and Daniel all worked at nuclear weapons sites, they each have varying ranges of health issues due to their workplace exposure. Fortunately, these Everyday Patriots are in generally good health, and still spend their days volunteering and giving back to their communities. Dana, Carolyn, and Daniel all shared similar advice: "Stay busy, be active, and do what you like!" John, who worked at the Hanford, Washington site for 28 years as a Chemist and Analytical Lab Manager, received his U.S. DOL white medical benefits card and his wife, Ruth, was hired by Professional Case Management, the founding company of CWP, to be his relative personal care attendant (RPCA).

Cold War Patriots is proud to get to tell these stories. To learn more about this year's Everyday Patriots, and how they continue to serve and give back to their communities, visit coldwarpatriots.org/EverydayPatriot. If you did not receive your 2021 Cold War Patriots Calendar, please call our Outreach Help Center at 877.335.0779.

2022 Cold War Patriots "Everyday Patriot" Calendar

We have some good news for you patriots! We will be continuing the "Everyday Patriot" theme to our 2022 Calendar! Once again, we will be selecting fourteen CWP members who have displayed excellence through their community service and volunteer work.

If you would like to submit an "Everyday Patriot" nominee, please fill out the questionnaire at coldwarpatriots.org/nominations and stay tuned for additional details.

Do You Qualify for Benefits?

As a nuclear weapons or uranium worker, you may be eligible for valuable benefits from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP), was created to help if you have developed an illness due to exposure to radiation or toxic substances at your work.

Top five reasons to apply today:

1. Up to \$400,000 in tax-free compensation.
2. FREE health benefits including doctor visits, prescriptions, medical equipment, hospitalization and in-home care.
3. Better than Medicare—no copays, deductibles or spending caps.
4. This is a benefit you have earned as a U.S. Department of Energy employee, contractor, or subcontractor OR if you worked in the uranium industry.
5. If you qualify, you will have peace-of-mind that your covered medical condition(s) will be taken care of for the rest of your life.

We have helped thousands of workers just like you navigate the process to file an EEOICP claim.

4 STEPS

— call the —
**OUTREACH
HELP CENTER**



1

Must have qualifying illness diagnosed by a doctor

- Chronic beryllium disease (CBD) or silicosis
- One of 22 SEC cancers or any radiation induced cancer qualified under dose reconstruction
- Any work related illness



2

Must have qualifying employment

- Current or former Dept of Labor employee, contractor or subcontractor
- Worked at one of 350 covered facilities
- Worked during a specified time period



3

Must provide proof

- Provide documentation of work history
- Provide medical records to substantiate covered illness



4

**Call the Help Center for more information on how to apply:
877.335.0779**

**cold war
patriots**

When To Use an Advocate

The process of filing a claim on your work-related illness(es) can be challenging. Some claims are simple, and some are very complex. A person filing a claim may generally authorize anyone to represent them in the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP) claims process—this person is referred to as an authorized representative, or an advocate. If you have gone through the claims process and been denied or if you are overwhelmed by the complexities of the process, you should consider engaging an advocate.

Daniel Burroughs, of Burroughs Elijah Attorneys in South Carolina, explained, “an advocate is a person that you appoint to help with your claim. They can be someone who focuses on the U.S. Department of Labor’s (DOL) EEOICP claims or is an attorney.” Mr. Burroughs happens to be both; he has worked with over 400 claimants and has over 85 approved claims in just the past two years. “So many times, we have to build a case that actually proves that exposure to certain types of substances could actually cause the condition and normally we have to get a doctor to provide a medical opinion letter that supports that claim,” Burroughs shared.

Cold War Patriots (CWP) members in South Carolina know Mr. Burroughs well, he has attended CWP Town Hall events to offer his experience and expertise. “It has been my pleasure to attend Cold War Patriots events and meet new nuclear weapons workers who need help filing their claim” said Mr. Burroughs who has assisted many CWP Members to successfully receive their U.S. DOL white medical benefits card, even if they were initially denied.

For help to contact a trusted advocate, call the CWP Outreach Help Center at 877.335.0779.

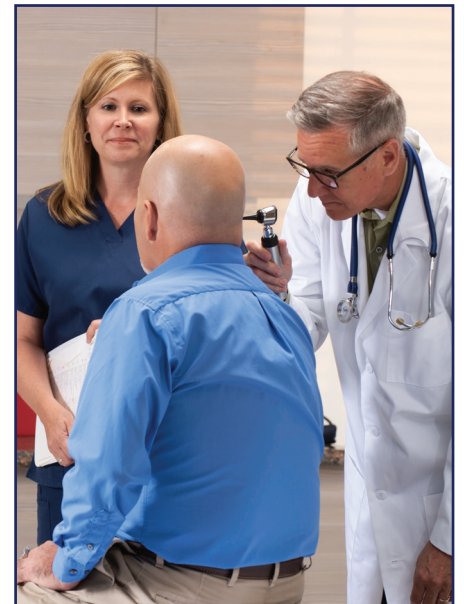
Medical Screenings

Haven't Filed An EEOICP Claim? Here's A Good Place To Start

Have you become ill due to your work at a nuclear weapons or uranium facility? If so, you may qualify for the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP). A great place to start to see if you may have a qualifying illness is with a FREE medical screening. Even if you do not currently have any health issues, you regularly see a doctor, or your EEOICP claim has been denied, this free screening is a benefit you have earned and are eligible for every 3 years as a nuclear weapons or uranium worker.

This valuable service is critical in the early detection of health issues and complications that may be caused by your employment at a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) site. "It's a great way to monitor your health at no cost to you," shared a former nuclear weapons worker and Cold War Patriots member. To receive EEOICP benefits you must show documentation that you have a qualifying work-related illness due to exposures to radiation and toxic chemicals at a U.S. DOE site. A medical screening exam from a qualified Worker Medical Screening Program can be a very helpful step.

The tests are specific to illnesses related to radiation or toxic substance exposure and may not be performed routinely by your doctor. "The former worker medical screening goes a step further than an ordinary routine physical as it tests for specific work-related medical conditions. Most primary care physicians have only read about conditions like chronic beryllium disease (CBD) and don't know how to test for this; the former worker medical screening does," said one recipient of the free medical screening who worked at the Rocky Flats site in Colorado.



The comprehensive FREE screening may include:

- Physical Exam
- Chest X-Rays
- Urinalysis
- Blood Tests
- Hearing Test
- Beryllium Sensitization
- CT or Cancer Scan

After you have had your medical screening, you will receive a medical report detailing the findings. You can then take this information to your doctor to discuss additional testing needed for a medical diagnosis. Once you receive a diagnosis from your doctor you can use that diagnosis to file your EEOICP claim.

There are six programs, each covering specific areas of the United States, that offer medical screenings, the three largest are:

1. The Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP)
2. The National Supplemental Screening Program (NSSP)
3. Building Trades National Medical Screening Program (BTNMSP)

The medical screening programs have conducted screenings for over 155,000 nuclear weapons workers and uranium miners since the inception of the program. Do not neglect to take advantage of this FREE medical screening, even if you currently do not feel sick.

To find out which program covers you, call our Outreach Help Center at 877.335.0779 to learn more. We have helped thousands of workers just like you navigate the claim filing process.

Ask the Cold War Patriots Outreach Call Center

Q: I am not sure where to even start in filing a claim, can you help me?

Yes, we understand the process for filing a claim can be very complex. A great first place to start is giving our Outreach Help Center a call at 877.335.0779. Regardless of your current health status, we recommend starting as soon as possible on your claim. When you call us, we will discuss what information you need in order to submit a claim with the EEOICP Resource Center, beginning with your employment details.

Q: If I receive my U.S. DOL white medical benefits card and my health issues begin to worsen, how can you help me?

We are very sorry to hear about your health declining, and we are here to help. Cold War Patriots was founded by Professional Case Management, a trusted in-home health care and impairment evaluation provider. They help nuclear weapons and uranium workers continue to live at home by providing anywhere from 24/7 in-home care to medication management. Another great thing about Professional Case Management is that in some circumstances the U.S. Department of Labor may pay to have one of your family members take care of you. Give us a call today to learn more about your health benefits under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program.

Q: My claim has been denied, can you help with resubmitting my claim?

Yes, there are many reasons why a claim could be denied, but that doesn't mean a claim will never be approved. We have helped thousands of workers just like you get the benefits you have earned. Call our Outreach Help Center at 877.335.0779 and we can help you determine what your next steps should be.

Meet an Outreach Help Center Representative

My name is Sherrie and I have worked in the Cold War Patriots Outreach Help Center for over 8 years. I have spoken with hundreds of nuclear weapons and uranium workers to help them navigate the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP). I started my career at Rocky Flats in Colorado as a secretary in June of 1977. I then went on to Production and ultimately to the Analytical Chemistry Lab until March of 1995; never really knowing the magnitude and importance of what we were doing, which was building the triggers for bombs. Mind you, the right hand never knew what the left hand was doing—very top secret, you know!

Rocky Flats was like a little city made up of families and provided a work environment second to none. To be able to serve in the capacity of helping my fellow Rocky Flats family as well as my extended family of U.S. Department of Energy workers has been a blessing. Many of you may recognize my voice or even my face, as I have travelled across the country attending Cold War Patriots and Professional Case Management events, getting to meet and help so many people in the nuclear weapons family. I salute Professional Case Management for leading the charge in providing excellent care to our nuclear weapons and uranium workers, in keeping with our mission statement: we are "One Team One Mission!"

