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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

SEC Expansion Update

The National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) has announced that a Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) has been approved as of September 2021. This SEC removes several hurdles for workers like YOU, who have either previously applied for a U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) white medical benefits card and been denied, or who have never applied. You now could be eligible for easier benefits approval!

If you worked at the Savannah River Site (SRS) between October 1, 1972 and December 31, 1990 you could qualify for new or additional benefits including monetary compensation up to \$400,000, plus FREE health benefits.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

- ★ Call our Help Center at 877.335.0779 to learn if you could qualify and what to do next.
- ★ Spread the word! Let your SRS coworkers, friends, and family who have been denied or never applied for benefits know about this expanded SEC and ask them to call the Help Center.

REMINDER: COVID-19 Can be Claimed as a Consequential Disease Under EEOICPA

Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, Cold War Patriots would like to remind our members that the Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC) issued a Final Bulletin that provides guidance to claims examiners (CE) regarding COVID-19. The Bulletin explains that a CE can presume that contracting COVID-19 is a consequential disease if the claimant has been approved by the DEEOIC for a medical condition that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined as being a high risk. Some of the conditions are:

- ★ Cancer
- ★ Chronic kidney disease
- ★ Chronic liver disease
- ★ Heart conditions
- ★ Chronic lung disease such as COPD and asthma
- ★ Weakened immune systems
- ★ Organ or stem cell transplants

If a claimant has been approved by DEEOIC for a medical condition that is not on the CDC list, the CE will require a fully rationalized medical report from the treating physician how the covered condition was likely responsible for contracting COVID.

If you or your loved one contracted COVID-19, the worker must complete and submit forms to the U.S. DOL or a Resource Center. **Please contact the Cold War Patriots Outreach Help Center at 1.888.837.7390 if you need assistance or have further questions.**

RECA Will Expand or Expire This Year... **Depending on YOU!**

This is a very important year for downwinders of nuclear testing, as well as those uranium miners, millers and transporters who worked in America's uranium industry to provide for our country's national defense. On July 10, 2022 the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) is set to expire. However, current bi-partisan Federal legislation, now moving through the House and Senate, would significantly expand the existing program and make thousands more sick Americans eligible for both compensation and medical care.



This is where Cold War Patriots members need to act—every House and Senate member will have a vote to extend and expand RECA. The legacy of radiation related sickness, injury and death requires our nation to do the right thing for those affected, through no fault of their own. Have you already received RECA or EEOICPA benefits? Please call and voice your support so that other sick Americans and their families can also benefit from these important programs.

Reach out today to your Representatives and Senators and encourage them to join other Democrats and Republicans in co-sponsoring the pending RECA legislation to extend and expand these vital programs.

YOU CAN REACH YOUR HOUSE AND SENATE MEMBERS VIA THESE NUMBERS:

★ **House: 202.225.3121** ★ **Senate: 202.224.3121** ★ **Contact both!**

RECA AMENDMENTS AT A GLANCE:

H.R.5338 & S.2798 (House & Senate bills, respectively)

The amendments as written, would:

- ★ expand the designated “downwinder” areas to include Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, and Guam and additional areas in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah
- ★ make more individuals who worked in uranium mining eligible for the program, such as thousands of “Post ‘71” uranium workers, expanding eligibility to include work done until year-end 1990
- ★ increase the amount of compensation awarded and provide medical benefits for eligible claimants; and
- ★ extend for 19 years following the bill’s enactment the fund that supports this program and the statute of limitations for filing claims (currently, the program terminates on July 10, 2022)

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact your Cold War Patriots Outreach Help Center at 888.903.8989, we're ready to help.

Regional Director Spotlight



TINA CABURNAY, NEVADA

I am going on my 17th year as a Registered Nurse and I am thankful to have the opportunity to lead a strong group of specialized caregivers and nurses who care for former Nevada Test Site workers. When I learned how these workers helped shape our nation, and how they now have chronic illnesses due to their work, it pulled at my heart. When I was growing up my grandparents had a huge impact on me. I love taking care of this population. It's important to me to take care of them in their homes and provide them with compassionate care, when they need it most.

KIMBERLY MUNGER, TEXAS

I was born and raised in the Texas Panhandle, and I have been a Registered Nurse since 2004. For nearly eight years I have been the Regional Director at PCM. I feel blessed to be part of the best team in our industry. I helped open our Texas office located in Amarillo, which is home to the Pantex Plant. It is my passion and goal to help nuclear weapons and uranium workers remain in their homes across the Lone Star State.

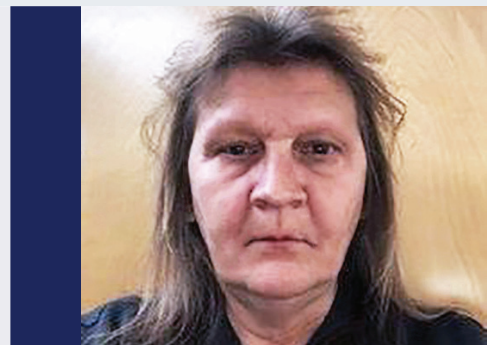


GWENDOLYN POPE, WASHINGTON

I have been a clinical director for home health for seven years. I became a Registered Nurse after caring for my grandmother, I was impressed with how the hospice nurses helped my family understand the disease process and what to expect. I also saw my husband battle brain cancer; these experiences gave me the motivation to advocate for quality patient care in the home setting. I recently moved to Richland and joined the PCM family. I'm happy to be here and look forward to providing care to Hanford workers.

DEBBIE QUEEN, OHIO

I have lived in Scioto County most of my life. I have been in the field of nursing for 37 years and began my career with PCM as a staff nurse 15 years ago. I am honored to work for a company whose mission is to serve A-Plant, GE, Fernald, and Mound workers in my area, and I am proud of the services we provide to those workers. We appreciate their service and all they sacrificed to keep our nation safe.



Professional Case
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Helping Nuclear & Uranium Workers Live at Home

Cold War Patriots Events

Cold War Patriots (CWP) continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation and host events in the safest way possible. This year we will continue with the Benefits Review style of events that we introduced last year, as well as Drive By events. For those unable to join us, we will continue to offer Virtual Events.

Benefits Review Events

If you joined us last year, you may have attended a Benefits Review event. At these events, we invite you to stop by anytime between 10 AM – 4 PM to speak with an EEOICPA and RECA expert. We don't hold presentations at the Benefits Review events to avoid crowding. At these one-on-one sessions, we speak directly with you about your specific needs and how we can help. Some of these include:

- ★ How to receive up to \$400,000 in monetary compensation
- ★ How to receive free healthcare and in-home health care
- ★ Introduce you to an Advocate, Impairment Doctor, and the U.S. DOL Resource Center
- ★ Provide next steps for a denied claim
- ★ Answer any questions you have about EEOICPA and RECA



Drive By Events

We are excited to continue with our COVID-friendly drive by events to show our appreciation to Cold War Patriots members. Last year we began hosting 'drive by' style events, where we invited CWP members to simply drive by our offices and pick up a special treat, including pies from local bakeries, holiday tins, and cookies! Keep an eye out for official invitations this year, and RSVP so we can make sure we have enough supplies.



Virtual Events

We will continue hosting a variety of 25–50 minute events you can watch from the comfort of your home, including Doc Talks hosted by an Impairment Doctor and Respiratory Health Talks presented by a Certified Respiratory Therapist. We have 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 DATE, TIME, AND EVENT LOCATIONS:

Visit www.coldwarpatriots.org/CWPevents, call 1.877.335.0779, check your emails, or check your mailbox for official invitations throughout the year.

Deadly Tornado Hits Kentucky, PCM Team Responds



Local residents and neighbors from surrounding towns in Mayfield helping clean up the debris. Photo taken by Nikki Clark.

You may have heard about the deadly tornado that hit Mayfield, Kentucky and the surrounding area on December 10 and 11, 2021 where many Professional Case Management (PCM) clients, employees, and Cold War Patriots (CWP) members live. The tornado left a wake of devastation in its path, with most of the town unrecognizable amidst the debris from collapsed buildings and homes. Producing wind gusts greater than 75 miles per hour, the twister that devastated Mayfield and other Kentucky communities was on the ground for 166 miles, touching down in Mayfield on Friday, December 10 at 9:30 p.m. and leveling most of the town. In response to the crisis, PCM and CWP jumped into immediate action to ensure the safety of every individual associated with PCM in the area.

Earlier in the day, the PCM team in Paducah, Kentucky had called on and prepared staff and clients ensuring they were aware of the potential danger, had a plan, and they had enough supplies. After the tornado hit, our Senior Leadership Team began checking on PCM staff immediately, while our Clinical Leadership checked in on our PCM clients. PCM and CWP's corporate offices, located in Denver, CO, launched a rapid response call campaign and called every single Cold War Patriots member and every medical provider such as physicians, rehabs, hospices etc. to check in on everyone's safety and well-being.

Meanwhile on the ground in Mayfield, PCM nurses and Outreach staff drove out to the homes of PCM clients and Cold War Patriots members who could not be reached by phone. Paducah resident and, PCM's Regional Homecare Outreach Specialist, Nikki Clark, contacted local Mayfield clients, and personally put together care packages that included food, new clothes, manual can openers, detergent, and other hygiene supplies.

Taylor King, PCM's Community Homecare Outreach Representative, and Ms. Clark, also put together care packages for the community members who were working from 4 a.m. – 10 p.m. each day to secure the destroyed Mayfield Post Office. Doing what she needed to do for her community, Ms. Clark was able to secure oxygen tanks, generators, gas propane, and kerosene to those who lost their homes and were placed at campgrounds, as well as provide care packages



The aftermath at the Mayfield Post Office. Photo taken by Nikki Clark.



*Aerial view of damage in Mayfield, Kentucky.
Photo taken on December 12.*

to local churches, and helped destroyed pharmacies and boutiques with their destroyed inventory.

During the event and in the days following, PCM provided resources, coordinated services, and arranged for food, water, shelter, and gas for generators, as well as donated to the disaster relief fund. PCM's President, Greg Austin shared, "Thankfully, the teams confirmed that none of our clients or employees had been injured, which was truly a relief. Only one client suffered a significant loss of property, and we secured a hotel room for her until so alternate arrangements were made."

Judy Terry, PCM's Regional Director in Kentucky shared, "We are aware that it could have been worse. I have never

worked for a company more caring and responsive in times of need. From the President down, there is a genuine concern and commitment to clients and staff. I am proud to be a part of this remarkable company and team."

Three days after the tornadoes hit, PCM's president, Greg Austin reported, "all PCM clients, employees, and CWP members have shelter, heat, food, and water, and all PCM clients have all necessary medications and medical supplies. This was a truly devastating event, and our hearts go out to the communities who have been impacted."

Ms. Clark shared, "It will take seven years for Mayfield to recover and rebuild, the community, and other surrounding communities. PCM pulled together to help those in need."

An abundance of resources has been provided to Mayfield residents and surrounding communities, and PCM remains in close contact with our Kentucky team to continue assessing any personal or community needs as they may arise. When calling to check in on Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant and Allied Chemical workers, one worker thanked our staff for calling them to check in and asked how he could help others instead. This heartwarming response truly speaks to the caring nature of our nuclear weapons community and gives us hope to know that Mayfield will recover.



*Nikki Clark helping with the clean up,
seen here is a vending machine that
was blown into Gibson's Pharmacy and
Jonah Brown Boutique.*

How You Can Help

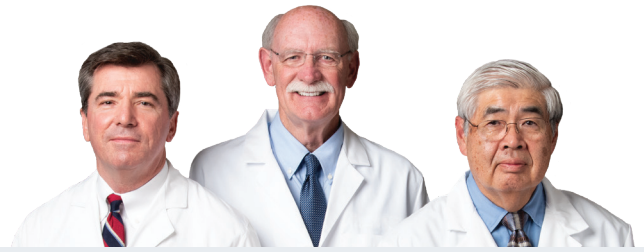
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP THE COMMUNITY OF MAYFIELD, PLEASE VISIT THE LINKS BELOW:

- ★ www.fema.gov/disaster/4630
- ★ www.TeamWKYReliefFund.KY.gov
- ★ www.redcross.org/local/kentucky
- ★ www.HelpSalvationArmy.org



**Professional Case
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Helping Nuclear & Uranium Workers Live at Home



We'll Help You Navigate Your Impairment Evaluation Process

PCM Impairments team of Navigators are highly experienced in working with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and guiding nuclear weapons and uranium workers through the EEOICPA impairment evaluation process. We understand that this process can be overwhelming and confusing. Let us help you! Shelly, Michelle and Ginger are the knowledgeable PCM Impairments Navigators who assist you with the impairment evaluation process. Below they answer a few of the most common questions they receive.

When can I have an Impairment Evaluation completed?

Upon receipt of your white medical benefits card from the U.S. DOL—but make sure to call PCM Impairments before sending impairment paperwork back to the U.S. DOL. By doing so, we can assist you with the paperwork and help you select one of our three experienced and compassionate Impairment Physicians. If not, you'll be assigned to a U.S. DOL Medical Contractor who doesn't speak with you to better understand your impairment and the impact on your life.

You can also get another impairment two years after the final decision of your last impairment. When you use PCM Impairments, we will remind you when it's time.

Finally, when new or consequential conditions are added to your white card, or if your condition becomes terminal, you may be eligible for a new impairment evaluation.

What is the process of beginning an Impairment Evaluation and how long does it take?

When you call PCM Impairments, we'll ask you a few questions and if appropriate, we'll get started right away. The first step involves us sending you the paperwork to request authorization from the U.S. DOL. We will prepare the paperwork on your behalf, then send it to you for signature, dates, etc. Once we receive it back from you, we fax it to the U.S. DOL. We will also send you a clinical packet with a Release of Information Form so that we can begin collecting your medical records. Once we receive an authorization (it takes 30-45 days, on average) we will then contact you to schedule your Impairment Evaluation.

Do I have to travel to see the Impairment Physician for my appointment?

No, it's not necessary. Most of our evaluations are completed over the phone. In certain areas, face to face appointments may be available, but not required.

We are certain you will have a great experience with PCM Impairments. You have a choice in Impairment providers, so why not choose the best? If you have used another provider in the past, it's no problem—you can start fresh, and we can begin assisting you today!

Call us at 866.578.2580