



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS®

HAROLD A. SCHAITBERGER
General President

EDWARD A. KELLY
General Secretary-Treasurer

September 10, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin,

On behalf of the nation's 322,000 professional fire fighters and emergency medical personnel, including the brave men and women of the FDNY, I am writing to express my strongest concern regarding the failure of the Treasury Department to reimburse the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) for care provided to sick and dying fire fighters at the FDNY World Trade Center Clinic.

It is my understanding that the Treasury currently owes the FDNY an estimated \$3.7 million, and this matter has been brought to your attention by the FDNY, Members of Congress and others to no avail.

The FDNY World Trade Center Clinic provides comprehensive physical and mental health services to all active and retired FDNY members who responded to the 9/11 attacks. As you know, the health impacts on 9/11 responders are significant and far-reaching. In addition to the 343 fire fighters who died on that fateful day nearly nineteen years ago, 226 FDNY members have since died in the line of duty of 9/11 illnesses. Thousands more suffer daily from lung diseases, cancers, gastrointestinal diseases, mental health ailments and many other ailments.

Particularly, on the eve of 9/11, the failure of your department to act is offensive and completely unacceptable. The Treasury Department must act immediately to reimburse FDNY for their services to fire fighters made ill by the response and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center.

Thank you for your attention to this critically important matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Harold A. Schaitberger
General President

Cc: James Slevin, 1st District Vice President
Andrew Ansbro, President, Uniformed Fire Fighters Assoc. Of New York Local 94
James Lemonda, President, New York Uniformed Fire Officers Association Local 854