

**NOTICE OF CRITICAL STATUS
FOR
UFCW LOCAL ONE PENSION FUND**

The purpose of this Notice is to inform you that, on March 29, 2024, the actuary of the UFCW Local One Pension Fund (“Fund”) certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the Board of Trustees of the Fund, that the Fund is in critical status for the Plan Year beginning January 1, 2024. Federal law requires that you receive this Notice.

The Plan is considered to be in critical status because, in 2023, the Plan received funding from the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (“PBGC”) through the Special Financial Assistance (“SFA”) program established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, in an amount estimated to allow the Plan to remain solvent and pay full pension benefits to participants through the year 2051. Under federal law, a plan that receives SFA is deemed to be in critical status until the plan year ending in 2051, regardless of its actual funding status.

Rehabilitation Plan and Possibility of Reduction in Benefits

Federal law requires pension plans in critical and declining status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the plan. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called “adjustable benefits” as part of a rehabilitation plan. If the Fund’s Trustees determine that benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction of adjustable benefits (other than a repeal of a recent benefit increase, as described below) will not reduce the level of a participant’s basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions will apply only to those participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after April 28, 2008. But you should know that whether or not the Fund reduces adjustable benefits in the future, effective as of April 28, 2008, the Fund is not permitted to pay lump sum benefits (or any other payment in excess of the monthly amount paid under a single life annuity) while it is in critical and declining status.

Adjustable Benefits

The Fund offers the following adjustable benefits which may be reduced or eliminated as part of any rehabilitation plan the Fund may adopt:

- Post-retirement death benefits;
- Sixty-month payment guarantees;
- Disability benefits (not yet in pay status);
- Early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy;
- Benefit payment options other than a qualified joint and survivor annuity (QJSA);
- Recent benefit increases (i.e., occurring in the past 5 years);
- Other similar benefits, rights, or features under the Plan (i.e., the Social Security Supplemental Monthly Benefit)

Employer Surcharge

The law requires that all contributing employers pay to the Fund a surcharge to help correct the Fund’s financial situation. The amount of the surcharge is equal to a percentage of the amount an employer is otherwise required to contribute to the Fund under the applicable collective bargaining agreement. With some exceptions, a 5% surcharge was applicable in the initial critical year (2008) and a 10% surcharge is applicable for each succeeding Plan Year thereafter in which the Fund is in critical and declining status.

Where to Get More Information

For more information about this Notice, you may write to the Fund Office at 5911 Airport Road, Oriskany, NY 13424 or call the Fund Office at 1-800-959-9497. You have a right to receive a copy of the rehabilitation plan from the Fund.