



Spring 2020



CSA RETIREE

CHAPTER

**QUEENS REGIONAL UNIT
SPECIAL EDITION**

Colleagues,

Despite this unusual time due to the Coronavirus pandemic, I wanted to “connect” with all of you in order to convey some important information on a variety of topics. Below is some information reproduced in part from the Manhattan Unit that is worthy of your attention.

As City and State officials have advised, please do follow the guidance of the health experts regarding distancing, frequent hand washing and the use of some type of facemasks whenever you must be in public.

Although Central CSA and the Retiree Chapter offices are closed, if you have a pressing problem you can leave a message at (212) 823-2020 and someone will return your call as staff are working from home. If I can be of any assistance, you can contact me at Stermanlen@aol.com and I will get back to you promptly.

Even though this a temporary situation it certainly represents a great inconvenience for us all and for some the loss of loved ones or friends is devastating. However, try to have a positive attitude and be sure to connect with family and friends for needed human contact even it is on the phone or using some other platform. Such actions will ease the impact and enable one to “carry on” until things are more favorable.

My best wishes to you for good health!

Len

**Leonard B. Sterman
CSA Retiree Chapter
Queens Regional Unit Leader**

Please review and keep the following information for future reference:

MEDICARE and COVID 19 COVERAGE

- Medicare covers the lab tests for COVID 19.
- Medicare covers all medically necessary hospitalizations.
- While there is currently not a vaccine for COVID 19, if one becomes available it will be covered by all Medicare Prescription Drug Plans (Part D).
- Scammers may use the virus to take advantage of people. Guard your Medicare number and Social Security number. Medicare will never call you. If someone calls asking for your Medicare and/or Social Security number hang up.

MEDICARE B REIMBURSEMENTS FOR 2019

- On April 17th those retirees with a Medicare Part B effective date between 2016 and 2019 should have received a deposit of \$1,626.00 (\$135.50 x 12.)
- Retirees with a Medicare Part B effective date prior to 2016 should have received \$1,308.00 (\$109.x 12.) If you are **NOT** IRMAA eligible you should file the 2019 Medicare B Reimbursement Differential Request Form with OLR. to receive the differential of \$318.00. Be aware that OLR is currently closed and not processing mail.
- Forms/documents can be sent via email to –NYCRetireesHBP@emblemhealth.com. Do NOT include your Social Security number. Include your pension number only.

IRMAA MEDICARE PART B REIMBURSEMENT FOR 2019

- The \$318.00 mentioned above will be sent to you after you file your IRMAA form for 2019. Do not file any other forms to obtain the \$318.00
- Since the OLR is currently closed, send your IRMAA 2019 documentation to:
CSA Welfare Fund - 40 Rector Street -12 Floor – New York, NY 10006 - Attention: IRMAA
- Enclose the cover sheet which you must sign. Go to www.csawf.org to download this form.
- Enclose a COPY of the Social Security Benefits letter for 2019 that you received in November of 2018.
- Enclose a COPY of the 1099 form from Social Security for 2019.

TRS INFORMATION

- Required minimum distributions (RMD's) are suspended for 2020.
- BEFORE the COVID 19 crisis, the SECURE Act was passed in December 2019. This act increases the age at which RMD' s must be taken from 70 and a half to 72.

CSA RETIREE CHAPTER AND QUEENS UNIT ACTIVITIES

- All CSARC events and Queens Unit events are canceled. For CSARC events members will receive either a refund or a credit your choice, when the CSARC returns to the office.

Stay current, check out our website!

CSA Queens Website
www.csaqueens.org



If you haven't paid your membership dues for our Unit for 2019, please do so as soon as possible. We need your support to continue to offer retirees various programs. For \$15.00 a year, you will be informed about any current updates to the CSA Retiree Welfare Fund, the CSA Retiree Chapter, Our Pension, Unit information and activities.

To renew, go to our website and download the "Renewal/Membership Enrollment Form." www.csaqueens.org

We will resume our usual activities as soon as it is possible to do so.