

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
 United States House of Representatives
 2331 Rayburn HOB
 Washington, DC 20515-3214

Dear Congresswoman Maloney:

On behalf of the 26,000 members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), we would like to thank you and your bi-partisan 35 co-sponsors for your stalwart support addressing the health issues faced by 9-11 responders. The reintroduction of H.R. 847, the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, would provide necessary medical monitoring and treatment for those exposed to toxins released by the collapse of the World Trade Center. The bill would also provide compensation for economic losses due to illnesses or injuries caused by the attacks.

In the eight years since the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks, many responders and volunteers have faced a myriad of health issues. Some have required continued medical treatments and some have perished as a result of those ailments. It is a sad consequence from heroic actions.

This important piece of legislation would help close both the treatment and disability payment disconnect evident since September 11th, 2001. From anecdotal evidence, federal law enforcement officers that responded to the attacks in New York and worked through the recovery have met with a seemingly unresponsive federal disability system. The federal Office of Workers Compensation Programs did not seem to grasp the issues affecting law enforcement officers post 9-11. This legislation would help address these and other instances of poor support.

From the worst attack on the United States in our history, we responded with our best. The law enforcement officers, fire fighters and volunteers that answered the call did so selflessly and without regard to personal cost.

They placed themselves in harms way in order to honor one of our highest principles, to save lives. In that response, these heroes resolved to not "fail or falter" until the rescue and recovery operation was complete. They worked tirelessly to try and save a life or to piece together a broken family's history.

This work and resolve should be honored and those that gave of themselves should be completely supported with any health or disability issues arising from their gallant service to our nation.

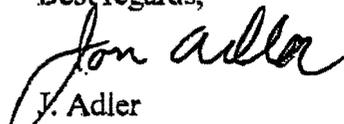
If we as a nation are to expect the best from those that serve and answer the call, it is only fair that they receive the health care support they deserve.

September 11th, 2001 was the deadliest attack on our nations' soil. The terrorists took 2973 of our most precious treasure. Without proper care, they will succeed in taking more. We as a nation should not allow that to happen.

FLEOA appreciates your outstanding leadership, Congresswoman Maloney, and that of the 35 co-sponsors for H.R. 847 the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act. We look forward to its swift passage.

As a grateful nation, we should never forget! You have fought to protect both the health and honor of those who served, and our membership greatly appreciates and respects your perseverance.

Best regards,


J. Adler
National President