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To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)
Subject: 226 - Implementation of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 (Pub. L 111-347) Comments

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Comments

I worked on the south tower directly on top of the rubble pile using a lance burner which is capable of cutting through 12 inches of solid steel. We worked 7 days a week 12 hours a day. I arrived the morning of 911 as did many of my fellow ironworkers, firemen, police, other trades, ,, etc... It has been almost ten years, and to say this time spent toiling in the pile of toxins has totally overwhelmed my respiratory system, my digestive system was also attacked by whatever we ingested down there. Other problems include, 3 ulcers so far, copd, asthma, gerd acid reflux, heavy cough, probably the strangest physical problem I have experienced is the muscular skeletal pain, for which I have explanation other than time spent and toxins ingested at the site. PTSD has been tough to deal with. I just want to clarify as an Ironworker you must keep actively working to have medical benefits as in most construction trades, we get paid earn a good living. The pay is good but there are no such things as, personal, days, sick days.. and when there's no construction there's no job. I'm not complaining although it may sound this way. My problem is this I have no medical benefits because I slowly become worse each year that goes by another ailment from my work down there pops up. I have a compensation case that has dragged on since 2004. The state will not take our or at least my compensation case seriously and Mt Sinai Hos. records are treated like 2nd class diagnosis from the comp judges. I so far have not collected a dime from comp, any insurance co. that covered my employers down there, I was a 6ft 2 230 lb connector. I pumped iron every other day, ran marathons, worked like an animal and partied like one also. Mt Sinai Hos. has been monitoring me for 7 yrs. The most invasive procedure I think they have done is take my temperature. We are given chest xrays... xrays?? for particulates that would barely show up under a microscope. The money that is poured into that program to staff that medical crew to do basically what a school nurse does to my kid when she has a fever. I am broke, sick, in full body pain cannot breathe, take 6 different medications that I didn't before 911, My complaints fall on deaf ears. Give me the equivalent to a blue cross policy, or Medicaid/Medicare and let me get treated for real... do not make me travel an our into the city to blow into a damn tube to see if I can float a ping pong ball. We need MRI'S-CAT SCANS-PET SCANS LUNG THERAPY, AND CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY.... NOT CIRCA 1967 XRAYS WHAT IS GONNA SHOW UP ON THAT, I GAVE MY BLOOD SWEAT AND TEARS DOWN AT THE TRADE CENTER SITE... YET I SIT AT HOME POPPING PAIN KILLERS AND TRYING TO BREATHE NO JOB AND NO INCOME WHERE DO I GO???

3 KIDS TO FEED A WIFE WHO LOST HER JOB AND NOT A NICKEL IN COMPENSATION THANKS NEW YORK.. THANKS USA!!