

**Thank you for calling Local 1262's Information Hotline. This is the latest update from President Harvey Whille as of Friday, April 3, 2026 and contains one message. This hotline – as well as other important updates and information for our members -- can also be found on our web site at [www.ufcw1262.org](http://www.ufcw1262.org).**

Local 1262 is pleased to announce that Assistant Field Director Tom Whille will now be taking on the job of a Benefits Liaison. In his new role, Tom will help our members navigate out-of-the ordinary health insurance, pension and other benefits problems.

Tom joins Assistant Field Director for Benefits Betty Laughery in this role and will be working with members in the Southern Region of the Local's territory. Betty will be assigned to work with members in Northern New Jersey and New York State.

"We are constantly looking for ways we can serve our members outside of grievances and contract enforcement," said President Harvey Whille in making the announcement. "The health care climate can be extremely hard to navigate at times. Now we will have additional staff to assist our members who have Health & Welfare or Pension issues that cannot be resolved through our Funds Office."

Tom, like Betty, will work with members by providing one-on-one personal assistance to help them understand Explanation of Benefits (EOB) Forms, denied coverage issues and more. He will also assist with any pension or retirement issues members may have.

Like Betty, Tom will travel daily with our Union Representatives visiting stores and meeting with members to resolve their problems. Speak to your Union Representative or Shop Steward if you need assistance with health and welfare or pension matters and to arrange a meeting with either Tom or Betty.

"Our Health & Welfare Liaison Program is just another service to our members that goes beyond your contractually negotiated benefits like health and welfare coverage, retirement plans and wage increases," said President Whille. "We are pleased to be able to expand it to help our members with these important issues."

If you have general questions about your health coverage or pension please call the Funds Office at 1-800-522-4161, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also visit our website [www.ufcw1262.org](http://www.ufcw1262.org).

That concludes this hotline. Thank you for calling Local 1262.

Concerns At Your Workplace?

Contact your Union Representative at 1-800-562-6913 (from New Jersey)

or 1-800-526-7814 (from other states).