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Sidney Schlachman
(1977-2018)

Dear Member:

As you continue to protect us in these uncertain and stressful times, please remember that we remain fully operational and will do whatever we can to help protect you as well. We have been dealing with many questions and issues arising from the lack of protective equipment and agency policy changes with regard to restriction of travel, overtime, and your interactions with members of the public. While we have faced challenges in attempting to resolve issues or obtain clarity of police agency policies, we know that cannot compare to what you are dealing with on a day to day basis.

Henry L. Belsky
Herbert R. Weiner
Michael J. Belsky
Michael E. Davey
Shaun F. Owens
Jonathon C. Scruggs
Chaz R. Ball
Barbara Greene
Catherine A. Dickinson

Since you are a front line essential employee, you certainly face a much greater risk than many of us for coming into contact with the COVID-19 virus. If you have been exposed to the virus in the course of your employment, it is essential that you seek the necessary medical care and inform your agency as well as any medical provider of the work related source of the infection. To that end, if you are off of work due to a COVID-19 diagnosis, it is important that all of your rights are protected and we would urge you to contact us immediately to discuss filing a workers' compensation claim. Attorney Joe Yahr handles workers' compensation claims in our office and can be reached at [jyahr@sbwlaw.com](mailto: jyahr@sbwlaw.com) or by calling 410-685-2022. Of course, you can also reach out to the attorney who represents the active members of your Lodge in departmental related matters, namely, Mike Davey, Herb Weiner, Shaun Owens, Jon Scruggs, or Chaz Ball and he will be certain that you are contacted by Mr. Yahr regarding the claim.

Roanne Handler
Kieran P. Dowdy
Joseph M. Yahr
Adam J. Davey
Jacob P. Finkelstein*
Christopher E. Rizakos

*also admitted DC Bar

We also want to remind you of the heart and hypertension statute for law enforcement officers of the State of Maryland. It is a legal presumption that law enforcement officers are subject to increased risk for heart disease and hypertension due to the nature of the profession. Policing in a pandemic may result in elevated blood pressure leading to a diagnosis of hypertension. We want to be certain that all of your rights are protected both now and in the future. Mr. Yahr would be happy to answer any questions you may have concerning this type of workers' compensation claim and if you are eligible, file the claim for you. Also, please remember that as a benefit to law enforcement officers, you receive a discounted attorney's fee rate in workers' compensation benefits that is 25% less than the fee allowed by State regulation.

Just as you protect us and all the communities within the State of Maryland, we are proud and honored to continue protecting your rights under the law.

Mike Davey, Herb Weiner, Shaun Owens, Jon Scruggs and Chaz Ball