



June 25, 2011

**To: All Eligible Employees**  
**From: Board of Trustees  
Northern California Carpenters 401(k) Plan (the "Plan")**  
**Re: IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING  
THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CARPENTERS 401(k) PLAN**

The following information is required by law to be provided on an annual basis to all participants and employees eligible to participate in the Plan.

Please read this notice carefully, as it contains important information about certain features of your Plan. To obtain more general information about the Plan, you should obtain a copy of the Plan's Summary Plan Description ("SPD"). See "FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION," below, for information on how you can obtain a copy of the Plan's current SPD.

**NOTE:** Many of your Plan elections are made by contacting New York Life Retirement Plan Services ("New York Life"). Whenever you are instructed to contact New York Life, you may do so:

- 24 hours a day via either the internet at [mylife.newyorklife.com](http://mylife.newyorklife.com) or an automated telephone system at 800.294.3575.
- 8AM to 10PM Eastern Time by calling 800.294.3575 to speak with a Participant Service Representative.

#### IRS SAFE-HARBOR PLAN NOTICE

For the 2011 Plan Year, if you are a collectively bargained employee, you will receive an employer contribution to the Carpenters Annuity Trust Fund for Northern California equal to at least 3% of your pay. If you are a non-collectively bargained employee, your employer will instead make a contribution to the Northern California Carpenters 401(k) Plan on your behalf equal to 3% of your pay for the Plan Year. This notice is designed to inform participants of their related rights and obligations under the Plan, and satisfy the requirements of the final regulations under Internal Revenue Code Sections 401(k) and 401(m).

➤ **Safe Harbor Non-Elective Contribution**

If you are an eligible participant under the Plan, your employer will make a contribution on your behalf equal to at least 3% of your pay.

*For Example:* Assume you are paid \$30,000 for the Plan Year. Your employer will contribute at least \$900 (3% x \$30,000) for the Plan Year, whether or not you elect to make any deferral contributions to the Plan.

**NOTE:** If you are a collectively bargained employee participating in the Carpenters Annuity Trust Fund for Northern California, the employer contribution you receive under that Plan for the Plan Year will be treated as your Safe Harbor Non-Elective Contribution for purposes of this Plan – provided it equals at least 3% of your pay for the Plan Year. You will not receive an additional three percent (3%) contribution under this Plan.

➤ **Other Employer Contributions**

No additional employer contributions will be made under the Plan.

➤ **Type and Amount of Compensation that May Be Deferred**

As a participant in the Plan, you may elect to defer a portion of your pay each Plan Year. Your employer will contribute this amount (your "deferral contributions") to the Plan.

You may make either regular 401(k) deferrals (pre-tax) or Roth 401(k) deferrals (after-tax). Your election regarding the amount and type of deferrals is irrevocable with respect to any deferrals already withheld from your pay. If you make regular 401(k) deferrals, your deferrals are not subject to income tax until distributed from the Plan. If you make Roth 401(k) deferrals, your deferrals are subject to income tax at the time of deferral. However, if you satisfy certain distribution requirements, your Roth 401(k) deferrals and earnings on the deferrals will not be subject to income tax when distributed from the Plan. Both types of deferrals are subject to the Social Security taxes at the time of deferral. Your employer will deduct the Social Security taxes, and in the case of Roth deferrals will deduct income taxes, from your remaining pay.

You may defer up to \$10.00 per hour (not to exceed 100% of your pay) each Plan Year, but not more than the annual deferral limit in effect each calendar year (this limit is \$16,500 for 2011, and as indexed by the IRS for inflation thereafter). Participants who will be age 50 or older during 2011 can contribute additional "catch-up" contributions up to \$5,500 for 2011 (or up to \$13.50 per hour).

For purposes of your deferral election, "pay" (available for deferrals) is generally defined as your compensation reported on Form W-2, and any amounts deferred under this Plan, as well as under any cafeteria plan sponsored by your employer. However, under the federal tax laws, pay in excess of **\$245,000** (for 2011) may not be taken into account for Plan purposes. Please refer to the SPD for additional information regarding the type and amount of pay that may be deferred.

See "FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION," below, to find out how to get a copy of the current SPD and other information about the Plan.

➤ **How to Make Cash or Deferred Elections**

To defer a portion of your pay, you must complete and return the appropriate form available from the Union, the Fund Office, or your employer. You must also contact New York Life to make investment elections for future contributions.

➤ **Periods Available for Making Cash or Deferred Elections**

In accordance with Plan rules, you may change your deferral contribution election (pre-tax and/or Roth) at any time by completing and returning the proper form available from the Union, the Fund Office, or your employer. The change in contribution amount will be effective as soon as administratively possible (but no later than one month following the election to change). Participants can stop contributing by completing a Contribution Change Form. Contributions should stop as soon as administratively possible. (PLEASE NOTE: Even though the Plan rules allow an election change at any time, for administrative purposes your Employer may limit changes to once in a 30 day period.)

➤ **Applicable Vesting Provisions**

You are always 100% vested in your deferral contributions (pre-tax and/or Roth), any rollover contributions you may have made, and any employer "safe-harbor" non-elective contributions made on your behalf (adjusted for investment gains and losses).

➤ **Applicable Withdrawal Provisions**

You generally may not withdraw your deferral contributions (pre-tax and/or Roth) or any safe-harbor non-elective contributions except when one of the following events occurs: severance from employment with your employer, death, disability, or attainment of age 59½. You may, however, obtain a "hardship withdrawal" that includes your deferral contributions if you satisfy certain IRS requirements.

You may also withdraw any rollover contributions you may have made (adjusted for investment gains and losses) at any time. You may withdraw all or any portion of your vested account once you have attained age 59½. The minimum amount you can withdrawal is \$500.

If you are a *collectively bargained employee*, you may request a distribution of your entire vested account if you have ceased working in "covered employment" (i.e., employment with an employer that allows participation in this Plan) for at least six (6) months. If you are *not a collectively bargained employee*, you may request a distribution of your entire vested account immediately following your termination of employment. In either case, you may also elect to defer payment until a later date, as permitted by law.

All withdrawals are subject to rules and procedures as may be established by the Plan Administrator. These are described in more detail in the Plan's SPD.

See the section "FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION" to find out how to get a copy of the current SPD and other information about the Plan.

➤ **Plan Amendment and Termination**

The Trustees retain the right to amend the Plan, including the right to terminate the Plan and discontinue all contributions (including the safe harbor non-elective contribution) under the Plan. Termination of the Plan will not affect your right to receive any contributions you have accrued as of the effective date of the termination.

<b>FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>
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You should consult the Plan document and SPD for a complete explanation of the Plan's features and information regarding your rights under the Plan. You may access the SPD by contacting New York Life. You may access your account information via the Internet ([www.mylife.newyorklife.com](http://www.mylife.newyorklife.com)) or by phone (1-800-294-3575).

You can also obtain additional information about the Plan through New York Life or by contacting the Board of Trustees, Northern California Carpenters 401(k) Plan (the "Trustees"). The Trustees also serve as the Plan Administrator and may be contacted at:

**Board of Trustees, Northern California Carpenters 401(k) Plan**

265 Hegenberger Road, Suite 100  
Oakland, CA 94621-0180

**Phone: (510) 633-0333; (888) 547-2054**

**[www.carpenterfunds.com](http://www.carpenterfunds.com)**

**EIN: 80-0204601**

This Notice is not intended, nor should you construe it, to modify any aspect of the current Plan document or SPD.