

President PHILIP RUMORE



BUFFALO TEACHERS  
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July 2, 2020

**MEMO TO:** Buffalo Teachers  
**FROM:** Philip Rumore, President, BTF  
**RE:** Updates

**THANK YOU**

On behalf of Dennis's family, which includes us all, thank you so very much for your kind words about Dennis.

As we said, he will be missed – but, never forgotten.

When we receive information on an observance, we will notify you.

**EXTENDED PAY PLAN EXTRA DEDUCTION**

We have worked with the District payroll people who have been very cooperative. Tomorrow, Friday, July 3, 2020, your check should include a separate notated additional amount that reflects what was accidentally deducted from your check.

Any problems, please email [lsauer@btfny.org](mailto:lsauer@btfny.org).

**UNEMPLOYMENT FRAUD**

At least one (1) Buffalo teacher has received correspondence from the New York State Department of Labor advising him that he was approved for Unemployment Insurance for which he never applied. This fraud is occurring not just to teachers but to many public and private employees. Identity theft protection is advised.

If you receive such a notice, please follow the attached instructions.

Please have a happy and safe Fourth of July.

**Please stay well and take no chances!**

PR:ls  
Attach: 1

If you receive information from the New York State Department of Labor regarding unemployment Benefits you did not apply for, there is a possibility you are a victim of unemployment fraud.

If you receive anything suspicious and believe you may be a victim of fraud, please take the following steps:

1. Notify the District Human Relations Department, so the District can take the next appropriate steps. Please copy the BTF on this correspondence so we can ensure the District takes all appropriate action with the State.
2. In most cases the New York State Department of Labor will already know about or suspect that a false claim was filed, but this step will confirm it. It will ensure that all steps are taken to protect the employee from exposure regarding the claim and protect their records with the Department of Labor.
3. Irrespective of whether Department of Labor has flagged the fraud and taken action, the employee is the victim of a crime. Unless you learn about the potential fraud from law enforcement, If law enforcement is not aware of this fraud, you should immediately file a police report.
4. The employee must also immediately thereafter file an alert with the FTC at <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>. Completing this form is the best way to ensure that the 3 credit bureaus are aware and that steps are taken to prevent additional use of the data to open up credit cards, loans, etc., in the employee's name. When completing the form, information should be shown regarding how to take those steps. Further, any victim should review their credit records to ensure no other false accounts have been created. Also, the victim should monitor their credit accounts going forward. There are discounts and program available through NYSUT Member Benefits, should anyone inquire. Also, if participating in the Legal Service Plan, members should be able to receive assistance for clearing up other false claims that may exist in the credit report.
5. It's important to note that in this particular fraud cycle, it is unlikely that the breach came from the District. Rather, central database hacks are more likely the source of the breach. Certainly, the employer should always be asked to confirm that this is the case.