

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

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**TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION No. 295**

**AIR FREIGHT CHAUFFEURS, HANDLERS, WAREHOUSEMEN, ALLIED WORKERS, MISCELLANEOUS,  
PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYEES GREATER NEW YORK AREA & VICINITY  
AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

33 WEST HAWTHORNE AVENUE, SUITE 29, VALLEY STREAM, NY 11580

TELEPHONE (516) 568-1970 · FAX (516) 568-1973 · WEBSITE: [www.local295.com](http://www.local295.com)

Dear Brothers &amp; Sisters,

April 20, 2020

There is no doubt in my mind, nor should there be in yours that we are in unprecedeted times and on uncharted coarse. We are in fear of our lives and our family's life! This is a major medical crisis with a major economic crisis strapped to its back. In NYC we have lost more lives from this Wuhan Virus than on 9/11. We see our economy SHUTTING DOWN, with layoffs, massive unemployment, businesses shutting down causing us to be in fear of our own financial future! How will we be able to provide for ourselves and our dependents?? I am not trying to be crude in order to get your attention, but I am going to be blunt and straight forward "We are in a MAJOR SHIT STORM of ISSUES". We and this nation will get through this as we have always done in the past. I hope and pray that you do not suffer personal loss of life or financial hardships. That being said I want to stress that I also hope and pray for all of us, that when we do break through this shit storm of a crisis and it is behind us, we as individuals or as a group don't come out smelling like shit because of the way we conducted ourselves and how we treated others as we weathered through this storm!

I want to ask you to join me along with all of our union brothers and sisters, our Local 295's Executive Board, Business Agents, Stewards and Alternates to do our best in these worst of times. It is a fundamental trait of a good Teamster union member to always "look out for the other guy/girl". I hope and pray that you will make it through this crisis unscathed and with your health in tack in order to live a prosperous and proud life. I also hope and pray that in 10 or 20 years from now when your children or your grandchildren ask you for your personal account of this Pandemic, you'll be able to tell them how life was for you and how you handled yourself and how you treated others.

I hope that you can truthfully and with pride tell them that we came together as a Nation and you did your part in the fight against this virus by using all the CDC's safe practices. As an essential worker you did your part by delivering documents, packages, and goods during this time of crisis and by doing so you provided for your family in order to get through this storm to a better day. Your daily efforts today, supply our first responders, hospitals, doctors and keeps commerce alive. I also have to specially thank those Union Members like YOU that are providing these essential services as well as our fire fighters, law enforcement, sanitation workers, and those in Health care Services and everyone providing services on the front line.

We all can see that "WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER" I have the greatest amount of respect and a deep appreciation for all the essential service workers like you, and those healthcare workers that are on the frontline of the fight against this virus. I am extremely honored and proud to represent you and all your fellow Teamster Members at this time. I promise you that you are not alone and that your Teamster Local 295 Executive Board, Business Agents, Stewards, and myself will do our jobs to proudly serve and represent you in all times. To you and your families God Bless, good health and keep safe "TOGETHER WE WILL ALL GET THROUGH THIS."

Fraternally,

Lou Calemine President &  
Executive Board

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March 16, 2020

To: All Local 295 Brothers and Sisters

From: Local 295 Executive Board

Re: COVID-19 / Corona Virus

The COVID-19 / Corona Virus is a very quickly changing crisis with very problematic factors. The tragedies of 9/11 and Hurricane Sandy hit us hard and sudden, but this is different. This Virus itself is new and unknown. It comes to us and the rest of the world after it started in Wuhan China by unknown contaminated carriers in an unknown way and from a very secret society that cannot be relied on for the truth or the facts. Another fact is that we are being bombarded with conflicting and confusing details and advice that seems to be changing very quickly.

This Local Union has been in contact with your Employers as this has been developing. This continuously rapidly changing crisis and now that the different government's actions and plans are being implemented this Local can have a better picture of your needs and your Employer's needs.

We will be talking and meeting with the employers to work out a plan of action for this crisis. Until then please use common sense and follow ALL the CDC's directions on hand washing, hand sterilizing, avoid hand face contact, covering your mouth when coughing, avoiding crowds etc. We will update you with information as this crisis develops.

We as Teamsters have been through many National, State and City State of Emergencies. We will get through this by our own personal nature and character. We need to continue to be level-headed practical thinkers and continue to look out for the "OTHER GUY" that is what sets us apart from some others. Stay in touch with your Steward and Business Agent and check out your Union Boards on your Job Site.

Stay Safe and God Bless you and your loved ones.

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LOCAL 295

To: All Local 295 Members

March 22, 2020

From: Lou Calemine & Executive Board

This has been an everchanging crisis with very problematic factors, the tragedies of 9/11 & Hurricane Sandy hit us hard and sudden, but we got through them and are stronger today. This is different, it comes to us after it started In Wuhan China by unknown sources and from a very secret society that cannot be relied on for the truth or the facts. It has come to us from unknown contaminated carriers in an unknown way.

This Virus itself is new and unknown. Another factor for us is that we are being bombarded with conflicting and confusing details and advice that seems to be changing very quickly. This Local Union has been in contact with your Employers as this has been developing. The moment to moment factor of a rapid changing crisis is confusing and has left us to this point today. Now that we have Federal, State, City and local town actions and plans that are being implemented this local can have a better picture of your needs and your employer's needs.

We have been and will continue talking and meeting with the employers to work out a plan of action for this crisis. Until then please use common sense and follow **ALL** the CDC's directions on hand washing, hand sterilizing and avoid hand face contact. Covering your mouth when coughing and avoid crowds and practicing social distancing. We will update you with information as this crisis develops.

We as Teamster's have been through many National, State and City "State of Emergencies". We will get through this by our own personal nature and character. We need to continue to be levelheaded practical thinkers and continue to look out for the "OTHER GUY" that is what sets us apart from others. Stay in touch with your Steward and Business Agent and check out your Union Boards on your Job Site for additional information.

We are all in this mess together and will get through this together.

Stay safe and God Bless

Fraternally,

Lou Calemine  
President Local 295

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March 25, 2020

To: Local 295 DHL / JFK Members

From: Local 295 Executive Board

Dear Brothers, Sisters and staff at the DHL Express,

Teamster Local 295 would like to express our condolences and our deepest sympathies for the passing of Brother Oshala Gordon.

Brother Oshala was a DHL Express legacy employee and became a member of Local 295 in 2003. Brother Oshala was an integral part helping Local 295 organize the JFK gateway where he worked. He was a proud Union member and well-liked by his peers and a valued employee and highly regarded by DHL management. Our thoughts and prayers are with Brother Oshala's family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Fraternally yours,

Lou Calemine and the Local 295 Executive Board



# CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

## 295 H&W Medical Benefits



April 6, 2020

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

We hope that you and your families are staying safe and healthy during this public health emergency. We are sending this letter to assure you that the Union and the Welfare Fund are here for you and your family during this difficult time. We also want to let you know about benefits provided by the Fund that are related to Covid-19 and the current public health emergency.

The Board of Trustees of the Welfare Fund has adopted the following rules, which will apply during the period of the Covid-19 public emergency:

### **FOR TESTING TO SEE IF YOU HAVE THE VIRUS**

- In-network testing and diagnostic services relating to Covid-19 will be provided with no cost sharing. This means you will not be responsible for co-pays, co-insurance or deductibles if you or a covered dependent receive in-network testing for Covid-19. You do not need authorization from the Fund to get a Covid-19 test.
- If you or a covered dependent is unable to obtain testing and diagnostic services for Covid-19 in-network, the Welfare Fund will waive any co-pays, co-insurance or deductibles that are incurred for testing and diagnostic services provided by an out-of-network provider.
- Testing can be done in a doctor's office, urgent care center, government run facility, emergency room, or through a telemedicine video or telephone visit.
- The Welfare Fund will cover testing products that are approved by the FDA as well as some testing products that are not FDA approved. The Welfare Fund's coverage includes non-FDA approved tests that are produced under government emergency use authorizations or as part of a state's review of Covid-19 tests.

### **FOR TREATMENT AND PREVENTION**

- If you or a covered dependent require treatment for COVID-19, the Welfare Fund will waive cost sharing for all medically necessary in-network services and supplies.
- Many companies and researchers are working on ways to prevent Covid-19. The Welfare Fund will cover preventive services such as vaccines once they are developed and receive approval from the federal government.

**For the duration of the crisis, because it may be very difficult, if not impossible to actually go to your doctor, the Fund has adopted a new Telemedicine benefit that will allow you to use your smartphone to videoconference with a doctor and have a "visit" to treat your problem. Go to your app store on your phone, download "LiveHealth Online", and follow the signup instructions.** This new Telemedicine benefit will be covered exactly as if you went to the doctor's office. This new benefit is not limited to virus related issues. You can "visit" your doctor through Telemedicine for any legitimate medical reason. Co-pays apply just as if it were a regular doctor's office visit.

I want to thank all our Local 295 members for doing their part as essential workers and keep commerce moving. Local 295 and your employer are communicating daily to assure that your safety on the job is priority number 1. We must all do our part by complying with stay safe methods. If you have any questions about your benefits, please call the Welfare Fund at (212) 308-4200.

Fraternally,

Lou Calemine President &  
Executive Board

### **\* FOR OUR DHL MEMBERS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPANY HEALTH PLAN \***

- Diagnostic testing and supportive care for COVID-19 infections will now be considered 100% covered in-network without deductible or coinsurance
- Care must be coordinated through a primary care physician in the UnitedHealthcare network
- DHL fully-insured plans, such as Kaiser, will adopt the same rules