

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
AMALGAMATED LIFE AND ITS AFFILIATES,
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Update

Amalgamated Life Honored by Fire Officers For Immediate Help to 9/11 Victims

In an emotional ceremony, the President of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association commended Amalgamated Life for “extraordinary service” on behalf of the dependents of 88 officers who perished at the World Trade Center on September 11th.

UFOA President **Peter Gorman** presented Amalgamated Life Chairman **Bruce Raynor**, President **Ron Minikes** and Executive Vice President **Rick Koven** with a special plaque and ceremonial UFOA plate to acknowledge its quick response. The head of the fire officers union (who was joined by all of the union’s Trustees) noted that Amalgamated Life responded immediately. On the second day following the tragedy, as soon as the union identified missing members, Amalgamated Life wrote checks to families who needed assistance. The presentation was made at a January 8th UFOA luncheon honoring Amalgamated Life and recognizing the company’s efforts to help the surviving UFOA families.

UFOA representatives noted that while many of the WTC victims’ families were scrambling for emergency financial help, the families of UFOA members were able to withstand financial anxiety because of the extremely prompt payment of their life insurance policies.

“UFOA’s choice of a labor insurance company was vindicated

without a death certificate.

Bruce Raynor, who is also President of UNITE, was visibly touched that the UFOA took time to recognize Amalgamated Life’s effort. In his acknowledgement he pointed out, “This is an example of labor helping labor, New Yorkers helping New Yorkers.”

Immediately after the September 11th tragedy,

Amalgamated Life’s senior management met with the UFOA leaders to expedite claim payments to meet the needs of the victims’ families. Provisional checks were issued in the days following the tragedy and once formal claims were filed all were settled within five working days.

UFOA represents fire chiefs, captains and lieutenants, and suffered the loss of 88 members in the tragedy.

“Amalgamated Life is honored to have the UFOA as a client,” commented Amalgamated Life’s President **Ron Minikes**. “We will continue to provide them and all our policy holders with the best service possible and we will always be there when they need us most.”



*Ron Minikes, President (Amalgamated Life)
Bruce Raynor, Chairman (President, UNITE)
Peter L. Gorman, Captain (President, UFOA)
Rick Koven, Executive Vice President (Amalgamated Life)*

by the way Amalgamated Life responded compassionately and personally to the surviving families,” he said. Amalgamated Life was recognized for cutting through all the red tape. For instance, in an unprecedented procedure, claims were paid

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Debbie Internicola survived the World Trade Center bombing that took place on a cold, winter afternoon in 1993. That frightening experience guided her to make a career move, one that will forever tie her to the September 11th tragedy.

Debbie moved over to Amalgamated Life 7 years ago, serving as a Senior Policy Administrator helping families of policyholders submitting claims following the death of a loved one.

But on September 11th as she watched the tragedy unfold from the Company's office windows at 730 Broadway, everything changed. Sadly, 88 of Amalgamated Life's policyholders, members of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, (UFOA) were lost when the World Trade Center collapsed.

As an experienced policy administrator and well known for her dedication and compassion for others, Debbie was designated as

the lead contact to work with the UFOA. Debbie, along with **Grace Sealy-Curtis**, Director of Policy Services, met with the UFOA and family members to establish the most efficient process of paying



*Danette Crocker, Administrative Assistant UFOA
Arthur J. Parrinello, DC - Treasurer of UFOA
Grace Sealy-Curtis - Director of Policy Services
Debbie Internicola - Senior Policy Administrator*

claims and meeting the needs of the victims' families.

After that meeting, Amalgamated Life offered two choices to the families. Each family could either receive a check, which was hand delivered by Debbie herself, or put the money into an interest bearing Money Market account, a convenience

that the majority of the victims' families selected. Working with Amalgamated Bank, accounts were opened with unlimited checking and no fees. Debbie also hand delivered the checkbooks for those who had chosen an account.

Debbie, who is a member of Local 400, lives with her husband, a Correction Officer, and their two children in Staten Island. They personally knew some of those lost. Serving as a liaison for the FDNY families is something that she truly values: "In a sad time, it made me feel good to know that I was helping others who needed it. I gave my best effort to make

sure each claim was paid as quickly as possible by working with my fellow staff members and the UFOA."

We are proud to have Debbie Internicola on our team and we are proud to serve the Uniformed Fire Officers Association.

Amalgamated Life

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