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◆◆SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS◆◆  
**CALCULATION OF DEATH BENEFITS FOR NON-VESTED PARTICIPANTS**

December 2019

To Participants/Beneficiaries:

The Board of Trustees ("Trustees") of the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters' Pension Fund ("Plan") is required to provide each participant with a notification of important changes made to the Plan. This notification, which is called a Summary of Material Modifications ("SMM"), is intended to update the July 1, 2019 Summary Plan Description ("SPD"). Therefore, you should place this SMM with your SPD and retain it for future reference. If you do not have a copy of the SPD, please contact the Plan's Administrative Manager (the "Fund Office") using the address and telephone number at the top of this notice.

The Trustees amended the Plan so beneficiaries of active participants who die on and after January 1, 2020 with less than five years of continuous service receive a Death Benefit that is calculated in the same fashion as active participants who die with five or more years of continuous service.

Please carefully review the following update to the "***What Is the Amount of the Death Benefit?***" section of your SPD:

**When your death occurs before receiving Normal, Early, or Deferred Vested Benefits**, the amount and method of payment depends on your years of continuous service.

Provided you have five or more years of continuous service when you die, your beneficiary receives a Death Benefit equal to the Normal Retirement Benefit payable from uninterrupted future service.

1. The benefit is paid in monthly installments for 60 months; or
2. The beneficiary can choose a lump-sum amount equal to the actuarial equivalent value of the 60-month installment benefit.

IMPORTANT: Under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, the Plan entered "critical" status beginning with the 2017 Plan year. For periods in which the Plan is in critical status, beneficiaries may not elect this lump-sum payment option if the payment is more than \$5,000. Beginning with the 2018 Plan Year, this restriction no longer applies as the Plan improved to endangered status and left critical status. If the Plan returns to critical status in the future for a given Plan Year or Years, this restriction on lump-sum payments above \$5,000 again will apply.

3. A surviving spouse also has the option to receive two-thirds of the monthly benefit for his/her lifetime under the Joint and Survivor Benefit form or three-quarters of the monthly benefit for his/her lifetime under the Qualified Optional Survivor Benefit form, payable at your normal retirement age or your early retirement age, if you are eligible.

If you have less than five years of continuous service when you die, your beneficiary receives a portion of the contributions received on your behalf as described below:

For deaths occurring prior to January 1, 2020, according to the following schedule:

<b>Vesting Service</b>	<b>% of Contributions</b>
1	60%
2	70%
3	80%
4	90%

For deaths occurring on and after January 1, 2020, equal to the Normal Retirement Benefit payable from uninterrupted future service.

1. The benefit is paid in monthly installments for 60 months; or
2. The beneficiary can choose a lump-sum amount equal to the actuarial equivalent value of the 60-month installment benefit.

If your spouse is receiving Joint and Survivor Benefits, Qualified Optional Survivor Benefits, or Death Benefits in monthly installments, and dies before receiving the equivalent of 60 monthly payments, his/her beneficiary will receive either the rest of the monthly payments due or a lump-sum payment as explained earlier.

**IMPORTANT:** Under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, the Plan entered "critical" status beginning with the 2017 Plan year. For periods in which the Plan is in critical status, beneficiaries may not elect this lump-sum payment option if the payment is more than \$5,000. Beginning with the 2018 Plan Year, this restriction no longer applies as the Plan improved to endangered status and left critical status. If the Plan returns to critical status in the future for a given Plan Year or Years, this restriction on lump-sum payments above \$5,000 again will apply.

As always, please contact the Fund Office should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

**THE FUND OFFICE**

*This notice, which serves as an SMM, contains only highlights of certain features of the Plan. Full details are contained in the documents that establish the Plan provisions. If there is a discrepancy between the wording here and the documents that establish the Plan provisions, the Plan document language will govern. The Trustees reserve the right to amend, modify, or discontinue all or part of the Plan at any time.*