



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
LT. GOVERNOR

JOANNE F. GOLDSTEIN  
SECRETARY

March 29, 2012

Dear City/ Town Official:

Thank you for continuing to participate in the dialogue over municipal unemployment issues.

In addition to requesting materials from you on cases, concerns and suggestions, we held a meeting with all interested municipalities on March 20<sup>th</sup>, have filed legislation to address the post retirement "960 employees", and established a Task Force to consider and make recommendations of other issues you brought to our attention.

We have established a dedicated phone line for municipalities at the Department of Unemployment Assistance. That number is 617-626-6262. For your convenience, we have also attached a telephone directory which lists other important telephone numbers you may need to access in the future.

We were also able to clarify the situations under which cities and towns are exempt from responsibility for UI benefits for call firefighters and EMTs. The attached guidance letter provides the details.

I have attached the PowerPoint presentation which Michelle Amante, DUA Acting Director, delivered at the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. I think you will find this useful.

As we approach the spring and summer when seasonal employees are often hired, I urge you to review the section on seasonal employment in the PowerPoint which describes how to exempt these employees from UI eligibility.

We are continuing to review all cases you have brought to our attention and will get back to you as we complete the reviews. I would note, however, that the review is separate from the UI process and it is critical that you continue to respond timely to all requests for wage and separation information via the proper forms and existing UI processes in order to maintain your rights.

Thank you again for partnering with EOLWD and DUA to dialogue and address the outstanding concerns about the system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joanne F. Goldstein".

Joanne F. Goldstein