

DELEGATE SEMINAR AUG. 2025TH 25



Presentation by

NEIL **RENOIS**Recording Secretary

DERRICK **LASCKO**Queens Borough Trustee

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

||| WHAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT FILING A GRIEVANCE

- Know your polices; Know your contract; Know your R&R
- One of the most important ways that a member can protect his/her rights is by filing a Grievance
- The Grievance procedure is contained in Article XXI of the Contract between the COBA and the City of New York
- It is strongly recommended that the Delegate review the Grievance before it is submitted



||| WHAT IS A GRIEVANCE?

- Article XXI of the COBA Contract defines a Grievance as follows:
 - **a.** A claimed violation, misinterpretation or inequitable application of the provisions of this Agreement:
 - b. A claimed violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of the rules, regulations, or procedures of the agency affecting terms and conditions of employment, provided that except as otherwise provided in this Section 1a, the term "grievance" shall not include disciplinary matters;



| ARTICLE XXI OF THE COBA CONTRACT DEFINES A GRIEVANCE AS FOLLOWS (CONTINUED):

- c. A claimed violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of the Guidelines for interrogation of Members of the Department referred to in Article XIX of this Agreement;
- d. A claimed improper holding of an open-competitive rather than a promotional examination;
- e. A claimed assignment of the grievant to duties substantially different from those stated in the Correction Officer's job title specification



| STEP | TIME FRAME

• A Grievance must be filed with the Commanding Officer no later than Ninety (90) days after the date on which the violation arose.



III TIME FRAMES OF EACH STEP:

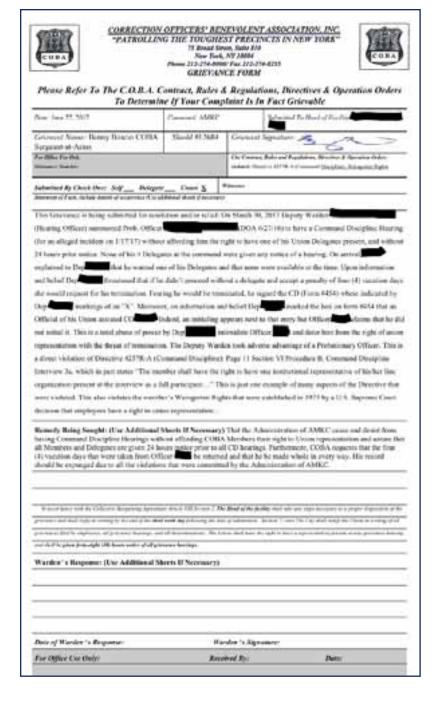
	FILING TIME AFTER DATE OF GRIEVANCE	FILE WITH	RESPONSE TIME
STEP #1	90 Days	Facility Head	3 Days
STEP #2	5 Work Days	Agency Head	10 Work Days
STEP #3	10 Work Days	Commissioner of Labor Relations	15 Work Days
STEP #4	15 Work Days	Office of Collective Bargaining	Undetermined

The Step 4 hearing is impartial arbitration. Before this step can be invoked, it must have the approval of the COBA Executive Board



| EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL GRIEVANCES

EXAMPLE #1





| MAINTENANCE OF FACILITY GRIEVANCE

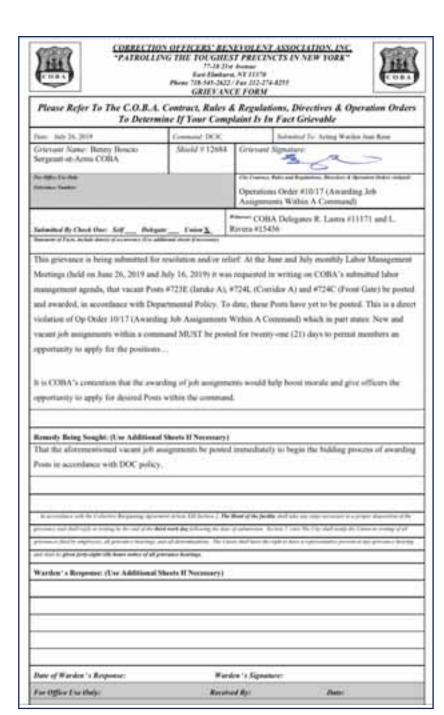
EXAMPLE #2





|| POST GRIEVANCE

EXAMPLE #3



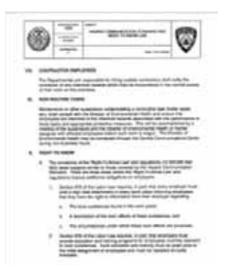


||| OSHA ACT OF 1970

The General Duty Clause requires each employer to have a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing death or likely to cause serious physical harm to employees.









NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SAFETY & HEALTH BUREAU (PESH)

The New York State Department of Labor, Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH) enforces PESH and OSHA standards for public-sector employees, in accordance with a "State Plan" agreement with OSHA.

PESH was established in 1980.



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|| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

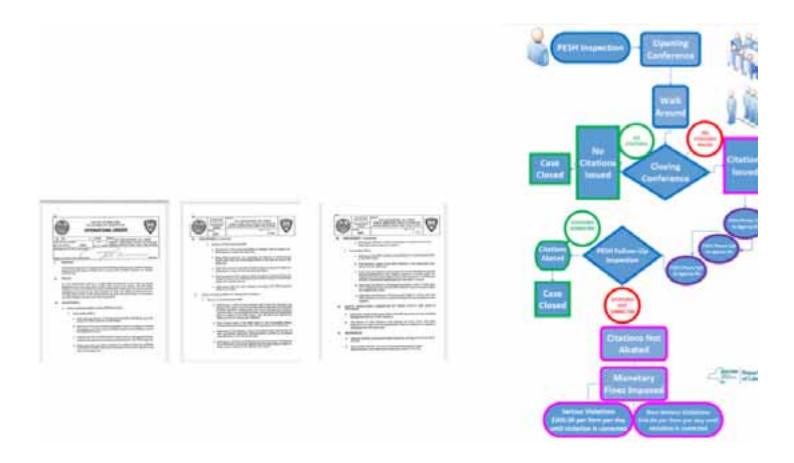
III REGULATORY STRUCTURE





||| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN PESH ARRIVES AT YOUR AGENCY?





III RISK ASSESSMENTS



Risk assessments show fire by-products like soot and mold were detected, the byproducts are dangerous and can compromise one's health. As the agency is obliged by safety and health laws to ensure that the workplace is free of serious recognized hazards, I implore management subsequent to any fire, to ensure that all commands adhere to the following:



Removing contaminated air from the work area and replace it with clean air

Removal of Smoke and Soot from All Surfaces

Cleaning and restoration

Supplying appropriate personal protective equipment for staff (respiratory, skin and eye protection)/ Immediately relieving injured staff.

It is my goal to ensure that staffers are carrying om their duties in the highest quality working environment possible, we must vigorously combat to abolish arson in our jails.

#3901 WOP (frm 274r)



III INSPECTION TYPES

- Imminent Danger
- A danger exists which could be expected to cause death or serious physical harm
- Accident/Fatality Investigations
- Complaints (Serious Hazard Alleged)
- A condition which exists that can cause death or physical harm
- Complaints (Non-Serious Hazard Alleged)
- A direct relationship to job safety, but is not serious in nature
- Hazards identified in the news media, other agencies, or collective bargaining
- Follow Up Inspections



||| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

III PESH OPENING CONFERENCE





- An Opening Conference meeting is performed to discuss the nature, purpose, and scope of the inspection.
- A generic copy of the complaint is presented.

The inspector will request that the agency download reference documents from the NYS DOL website: Examples:

- PESH Act Labor
- What is PESH?
- Employer and Employee Rights and Responsibilities
- Workplace Violence Prevention Program
- Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses



III P 16

III PESH CLOSING CONFERENCE

The PESH Inspector/Hygienist will discuss:

- type of violations found, if any
- Issuance of Notice of Violations and Order to Comply
- abatement measures which can be taken
- free PFSH consultation services
- assigned approximate abatement period
- what is a petition for modification of an abatement date
- how to apply for the appeal process



SANITATION

On Sunday April 18, 2021, a risk assessment was conducted on Risker Island. Based on findings, the commands arc failing to maintain the good order of the facility cleanliness, disinfect all areas, and properly dispose of sewage and waste.

Per CDC guidelines, you may wane to either clean more frequently or choose to disinfect (in addition to cleaning) in shared spaces if certain conditions apply that can increase the risk of infection from touching surfaces:

- High transmission of Covid 19- in your community,
- Low number of people wearing masks,
- · Infrequent hand hygiene, or
- The space is occupied by certain populations, such as people at increased risk for servers illness from COVID-19

If there has been a sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 in your facility within the last 24 hours, you should clean and disinfect the space.

Inadequate staffing levels do not justify allowing the facilities to go haywire. As the agency is obliged by safety and health laws to ensure that the workplace is free of serious recognized hazards.

In these unprecedented times, a reasonable effort should be made to intensify the cleaning process, an implementation plan should be put into action in order to accomplish daily tasks as resolution.





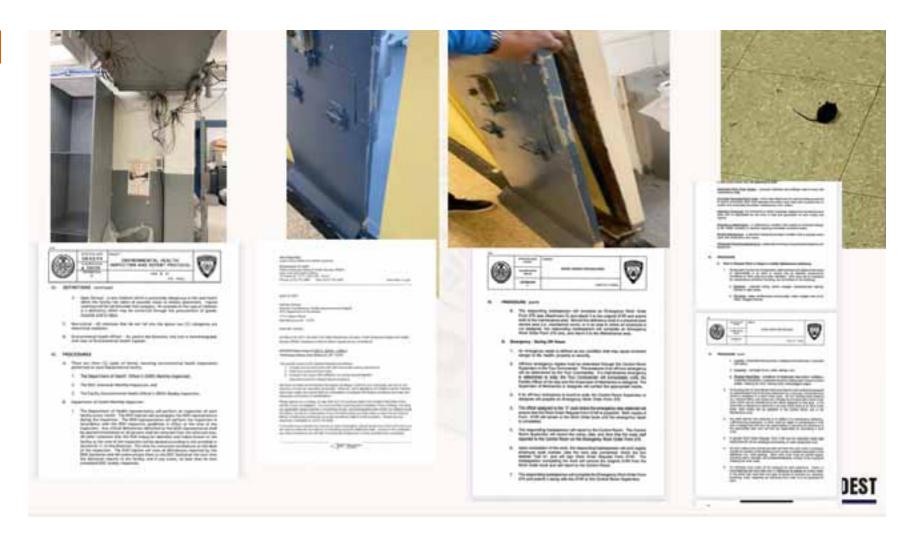






|| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES













||| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

| WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

- DIRECTIVE 6302R-A WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM
- DEFINITON OF WPV: LOCATED ON PAGE 3 OF POLICY SECTION "I"
 - I. Workplace Violence (WPV): Any physical assault or act of aggressive behavior occurring where a public employee performs any work-related duty in the course of his or her employment including, but not limited to: a) an attempt or threat, whether verbal or physical, to inflict physical injury upon an employee; b) any intentional display of force which would give an employee reason to fear or expect bodily harm; c) intentional and wrongful physical contact with a person without his or her consent that entails some injury; and d) stalking an employee with the intent of causing fear or material harm to the physical safety and health of such employee when such stalking has arisen through and in the course of employment.
- MISCONCEPTION OF WPV: EXAMPLES OF WHAT DOES NOT FIT THE CRITERA OF WPV
 - HOSTILE WORK ENVIORNMENT
 - UNPROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR
 - **W** COMMAND DISCIPLINES
 - IMPROPER RADIO TRANSMISSIONS
- **♣** HOW TO FILE A WPV REPORT: ATTACHMENT F

It is the responsibility of the supervisor receiving the Workplace Violence Incident Report to ensure that all seven required elements are provided on the Workplace Violence Incident Report Form. If not, the complainant's supervisor must return the report to the complainant for completion.

- ** A UNION DELEGATE CAN ALSO SUBMIT THE FORM
- ** OR EMAIL DIRECTLY TO

WORKPLACEVIOLENCE@DOC.NYC.GOV



|| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES



- DEPUTY COMMISIONER FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IS THE WPV COORDINATOR
- DESIGNEE FROM OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION
- **UESIGNEE FROM OFFICE OF QUALITY & COMPLIANCE**
- DESIGNEE FROM OFFICE OF SENIOR DEPUTY COMMISIONER
- **4** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LABOR RELATIONS
- **LABOR RELATIONS ATTORNEY**
- LEGAL DIVISION ATTORNEY

RISK EVALUATIONS

- ♣ CONDUCTED BASED ON THE REVIEWING OF THE UNUSUAL INCIDENT REPORTS AND SECURITY STATISTICTS MAINTAINED BY OFFICE OF POLICY AND COMPLAINCE (OPC)
 - ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED BY: ASSISTANT COMMISIONER
 OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LABOR RELATIONS,
 SECURITY STAFF AND UNION REPRESENTATIVES
- RISK ASSESSMENT: CONTACT UNION REPRESENTATIVE TO ADDRESS A RISK CONSERN IE. INOPERABLE PBA, INOPERABLE PORTABLE RADIO ON POST, LIGHTING, EXPIRED STAB RESISTANT VESTS/BALLISTIC. THESE ISSUES CAN BE AND SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP DURING THE LABOR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS
- ANNUAL RISK EVALUATIONS ARE CONDUCTED: INCLUDES A
 PHYSICAL PLANT INSPECTION. DOCUMENTATION REVIEWED TO
 DETERMINE IF SECUIRY ISSUES ARE RISK FACTORS
- IF WPV VIOLATION EXISTS, THE DEPUTY COMMISIONER OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND INTEGRITY OR DESIGNEE WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE THAT THE VIOLATION OF WPV IS CORRECTED





- A WRITTEN NOTICE IS PROVIDED UPON COMPLETION OF THE WPV INVESTIGATION TO THE COMPLAINANT AND RESPONDENT.
- IF APPLICABLE, APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION, SUCH AS MEDIATION OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION IS IMPLEMENTED
- ALL RESERVE THE RIGHT TO BRING UNION RESPRESENTATION OR AN ATTORNEY FOR THE INTERVIEWING PROCESS
 - IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STAFF MEMBER TO ARRAINGE REPRESENTATION TO BE PRESENT
- THE WPV COMMITTEE HAS AN OBLIGATION TO ENSURE NO RETALATION OF ANY PARTICIPANTS TO WPV CLAIMS (INLUDING WITNESSES)



|| GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES











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COBA WORKING FOR YOU!

COMPLAINT FROM COBA

Hazards alleged in the complaint are stated as follows:

- There are loose and missing tiles in the men's locker room, women's locker room & program trailer creating an uneven and unstable walking surface.
- Three toilets in the men's locker room are not functioning and over 100 employees use the toilet in the men's locker room.

RESULT FROM INVESTIGATION

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION RESULTS

A review of the material that you submitted, and an initial crisite inspection of the workplace revealed violations related to items listed in your complaint. Your complaint is sustained. A Notice of Violation and Order to Comply (NOV) has been issued to the employer responsible for the facility.

A copy of the NDV is required to be posted at or near the site of each violation. Please refer to the attached inspection harrative and NDV for more details.

PESH UPDATE - WEST FACILITY

Recording Secretary Neil Renois submitted a PESH complaint, resulting in a citation issued at West Facility following locker room complaint





CORRECTION OFFICERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

"PATROLLING THE TOUGHEST PRECINCTS IN NEW YORK"

COBA HEADQUARTERS

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