

NAME:  
REGARDING:

SS#:

**UFCW LOCAL 1500 WELFARE FUND**

**LOCAL:** 1500  
**STATUS:** Full Time

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**ISSUE:** Medical – Penalty for Lack of Precertification #M13/102-9033

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**FUND RULE:**

"If Services Are Not Precertified

If you call to precertify services as needed, you will receive maximum benefits. Otherwise, benefits may be reduced by 50% up to \$500 for each admission, treatment or procedure."

(UFCW Local 1500 Full Time Employees Group Benefit Plan SPD, Page 47)

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**SUMMARY:**

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Date(s) of Service: | May 24, 2012 - May 26, 2012 |
| Claim Received:     | June 11, 2012               |
| Paid:               | June 25, 2012               |
| Appeal Received:    | December 21, 2012           |

The **participant** is appealing for relief of the \$500 penalty assessed by Empire Blue Cross for lack of certification for a hospital admission for his spouse. The participant states that his spouse was experiencing chest pains and was admitted to New York Methodist Hospital through the emergency room. The participant states that he was so overwhelmed with the situation that he forgot to contact Empire Blue Cross.

Fund records indicate that New York Methodist Hospital submitted a claim for inpatient admission for the participant's spouse from May 24, 2012 through May 26, 2012. The claim was paid up to the limits of the Plan with a \$500 penalty assessed because the participant did not call to precertify services for his spouse.

**ACTION:**

Approved

☐

Denied

☐

Tabled

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**COMMENTS:**