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## KEN KRUG EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

kkrug@jewishla.org

April 28, 2009

U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Public Disclosure Room, N-1513 200 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, DC 20210

Re:

Notice of Endangered Status for Basic Pension Plan for Employees of

Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles

Plan# 001 EIN 95-1643388

Enclosed is the 2009 plan year Notice of Endangered Status for the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles Basic Pension Plan.

Sincerely,

**Executive Vice President Chief Operating Officer** 

Enclosure

## Notice of Endangered Status

Basic Pension Plan for Employees of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles

Date: April 27, 2009

To: Participants, Beneficiaries, and Bargaining Parties participating in the Basic Pension Plan

for Employees of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles

From: Ken Krug, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

This communication is to inform you that on March 31, 2009 our plan's actuary officially certified to the Internal Revenue Service and the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles, as plan sponsor, that our plan is in "endangered status" (as defined by the IRS), also known as the "Yellow Zone," for the plan year beginning January 1, 2009. Federal law requires that you receive this notice. This notice is also being sent to the Department of Labor and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

The Plan is considered to be in endangered status because the Plan's funded percentage for the plan year is less than 80 percent. For the plan year beginning January 1, 2009, the Plan's funded percentage is 72.47 percent. The Plan's funded percentage is determined by dividing the value of the Plan's assets by the Plan's liability for accrued pension benefits.

The reason that the Plan's funded percentage is less than 80 percent is the loss in the Plan's asset value caused by the economic crisis that began in 2008. This crisis has had a major impact on the funded percentage of virtually all U.S. pension plans.

The Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 (WRERA) Section 204 allows sponsors of multiemployer plans to temporarily freeze the plan's status to be the same as that of the prior plan year and to not require that the Plan's Funding Improvement Plan (see the next section below) be updated in 2009. In addition, WRERA Section 205 allows sponsors of multiemployer pension plans that are in endangered status for a plan year beginning in 2008 or 2009 to elect to extend the "funding improvement period" from 10 years to 13 years. Accordingly, we have made this election to extend the funding improvement period from 10 years to 13 years and to "freeze" the current Funding Improvement Plan for one year.

## **Funding Improvement Plan**

Federal law requires pension plans in endangered status to adopt a "Funding Improvement Plan" aimed at restoring the financial health of the plan. The Plan adopted its Funding Improvement Plan on November 12, 2008. Based on the election under WRERA Section 204, the Plan is not required to update its Funding Improvement Plan until the 2010 Plan year, if the Plan remains in endangered status for 2010

Please be aware that, despite the election to freeze the Plan's status for one year and not formally update the Funding Improvement Plan, we are currently exploring ways to improve the Plan's funding in view of the significant investment losses that occurred during 2008. We are committed to taking the appropriate steps to ensure the security of your pension.

## Where to Get More Information

For more information about this Notice, please feel free to contact Tina LeBrun, Director of Benefits, at (323) 761-8055.