

SUFFOLK COUNTY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT FUND

TRUSTEES

DANIEL C. LEVLER
CHAIRPERSON
CHRISTINA A. MAHER
STANLEY J. HUMIN III
THOMAS P. MORAN
BEN CHIARAMONTE

30 ORVILLE DRIVE
SUITE D
BOHEMIA, NY 11716-2513



LINDA L. BROWN, ADMINISTRATOR

PHONE (631) 319-4099
FAX (631) 218-7970
www.scmebf.org

COUNTY OBSERVER
LAUREN ALLERTI, ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR OF LABOR RELATIONS

UNION OBSERVER
LOUIS R. VISCUSI, PRESIDENT, SCCOA
TOM BIVONA, PRESIDENT, DSPBA

Subject: Clarification Regarding Social Security Numbers for Dental Services

We understand that there have been some concerns regarding being asked to provide your Social Security number (SSN) when seeking dental services under our new health insurance plan with MetLife. Please know that we take your privacy and security seriously and are committed to addressing this matter promptly.

Why Is This Information Being Requested?

The dental providers under this plan may request your SSN to verify your identity and confirm eligibility for services. This is a standard practice used by some providers to process claims accurately and avoid errors.

Privacy and Security Measures

We have confirmed that the dental provider complies with all applicable privacy and data security laws, including HIPAA, to safeguard your personal information. Your SSN will only be used for verification and claims processing purposes. While these entities may have access to your Social Security number for necessary purposes, there are strict legal frameworks in place to protect against unauthorized use or disclosure you also have the right to protect your privacy and request alternate verification methods.

Alternative Verification Option

If you do not feel comfortable providing your Social Security number, you have the following options:

- **Request identify verification by name and date of birth:**
When speaking with the dental provider you can request that they verify your identity using your name and date of birth instead of your Social Security number

- **Contact Customer Service:**

If you have any concerns, you may contact the customer service number directly. Their representatives can locate your policy and assist you by using your name and date of birth ensuring you do not have to provide your Social Security number.

What We Are Doing

We are working closely with the insurance carrier to explore permanent alternatives that do not require members to provide their SSNs. We will update you as soon as we have additional information or options available.

Have Questions?

If you have further concerns or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact Metlife @1-888-466-8673. You may also contact our office at 631-319-4099 or inquiry@scmebf.org. We are here to help.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to resolve this issue.

Sincerely,



Linda L. Brown
Benefit Fund Administrator