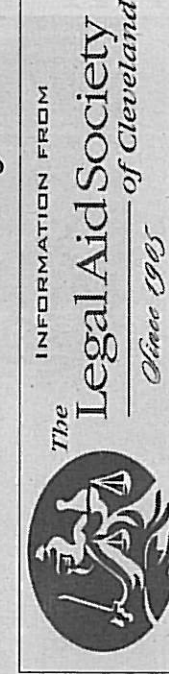


# What you need to know if you lose your job



By ANITA MYERSON  
Legal Aid Society  
of Cleveland

## File for Unemployment Compensation Benefits

*Can I receive unemployment benefits?*

You can receive unemployment benefits if you lose your job for one of these reasons:

- LACK OF WORK — You can receive benefits if you are LAID OFF by your employer. You may be able to receive partial benefits if you are getting fewer hours.
- DISCHARGED WITH-OUT JUST CAUSE — You can receive benefits even if your employer has the right to fire you if you can show that you were without fault and did not commit misconduct.
- QUIT FOR JUST CAUSE — You can receive benefits if a reasonable person who wanted to remain employed would have quit under the circumstances, and you can show that you made reasonable attempts to resolve the problems with your employer before quitting.

## How do I file for unemployment benefits?

You can file for unemployment benefits by calling 1877-644-6562. Or you can apply online at: <http://unemployment.ohio.gov>. This site is available 24 hours a day and also contains links to The Workers' Guide to Unemployment Compensation, Frequently Asked Questions, and information about how to find a job. You can also find links to other services available to unemployed workers at: [http://jfs.ohio.gov/ocomm\\_ro/umempresources.stm](http://jfs.ohio.gov/ocomm_ro/umempresources.stm).

## What happens after I file an application for unemployment benefits?

- You and your former employer will complete fact finding forms about the reason why you are no longer working. The unemployment agency will use these responses to determine whether or not your separation allows you to receive benefits. If you do not understand the questions, call the "Processing Center" that issued the notice and ask for clarification.
- The agency will evaluate whether you have enough wages in covered employment in your "base period" or "alternate base period" to qualify you for benefits.
- Currently, you must have worked 20 weeks and earned an average of \$210 per week.
- Your "base period" is the first 4 of the last 5 completed calendar quarters.
- The "alternate base period" is the 4 most recently completed calendar quarters.
- The unemployment agency will issue a "Determination".
- If your benefits are

These "window clings" are often available from the American Kennel Club or visit ADT's website ([www.adt.com](http://www.adt.com)) to obtain a free one. Beyond using the signs, you should always update them as new pets arrive in your family!

If you return home to a burning building, you should not attempt to enter, trying save your pets! This is difficult but you need to let the professionals do their job and rescue your animals.

As mentioned, working smoke alarms are helpful to the humans, but if you aren't there to hear the alarm, your pets could be trapped inside. According to Bob Tucker, PR Director of ADT Security, pet owners should consider monitored smoke detection services as an extra precaution. By alerting the fire department more quickly, these services increase the chances that your pets will get out safely.

Finally, due to the efforts of local veterinarians and animal volunteers, many rescue services across the nation now have access to "animal-appropriate" oxygen masks. These devices help deliver life-saving oxygen more effectively and will increase the chance of your pet's survival. Other veterinarians teach courses on effective animal CPR techniques to first responders.

Saving pets from the horrors of fire will be easier thanks to dedicated fire fighting professionals, alarm companies, veterinarians and humane organizations, all working together. To keep up to date on all pet related news, be sure to visit [www.PetDocsOnCall.com](http://www.PetDocsOnCall.com) for the latest and most trustworthy pet health information.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PET QUESTIONS? Call Dr. Evan Morse at Warrensville Animal Hospital, 4003 Warrensville Center Rd., your Veterinary News Network (VNN) reporter at (216) 491-9333.**

## Making a toast to Cleveland's water

On behalf of Mayor Jackson, the Cleveland Division of Water is pleased to welcome the Cleveland Restoration Society to the Baldwin Water Works. The Commissioner of the Division of Water, J. Christopher Nielson said, "We are honored that CRS has recognized the Division's restoration efforts at Baldwin and hope that you enjoy this invaluable asset during your celebration".

The Cleveland Restoration Society was formed in 1972 and has played an integral part in saving and rehabilitating numerous historic buildings and neighborhoods in Northeast Ohio since then. As a Local Partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, CRS assists individual property owners and local community leaders with historic preservation issues.

The evening begins with registration at 5:30pm, followed self-guided tours of the public and water processing spaces. There will be displays by various companies, a silent auction, a cellar raffle, hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and soft drinks available. Cocktails will be served at 7 pm, followed by dinner at 8 pm, catered by the Cleveland Skating Club. Action winners will be announced at 9:30pm and the event ends at 10 pm. Valet parking is provided. Dress is business-casual and guests are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes for the tour.

Tickets begin at \$175 and program advertising opportunities start at \$75.

information.

2. Report any earnings or work activity on the weekly claims!

• You will be asked if you are working and how much money you earned during the week in which you filed your claims.

• If you work at all during the week, you MUST report the amount you earned! If you fail to report this information correctly, you can be charged with fraud.

*How many benefits will I receive and how much will I receive?*

Usually, you can receive 26 weeks of unemployment benefits in a "benefit year."

Currently, there is a Federal extension called Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) available, providing an additional 33 weeks of benefits.

Another program called Extended Benefits may also be available and may provide additional weeks.

*I receive Social Security benefits; can I receive unemployment as well?*

Yes. Social Security benefits are no longer deducted from unemployment benefits.

*I tried to start a company but it failed; can I get unemployment?*

If you paid into unemployment benefits, you may be able

to receive benefits. Otherwise, you may be able to receive benefits if you still qualify based on your most recent covered employment.

## How do I receive benefits?

Benefits are paid by direct deposit or by debit card. You will be able to choose which option you prefer. The agency no longer issues paper checks.

## What happens if I am denied benefits?

If you are denied, you must file your appeal within the 21 day appeal deadline stated on your notice, or you will lose your right to appeal.

If you file an appeal, the agency will then send questions to the employer and will issue a "Redetermination". If you disagree with the Redetermination, you would file another appeal, and you could then have a Hearing. You can contact Legal Aid for assistance with filing appeals and with seeking assistance with hearings. Contact our office as soon as you know you have a problem!

## Other resources for unemployed workers:

First Call for Help — call 211

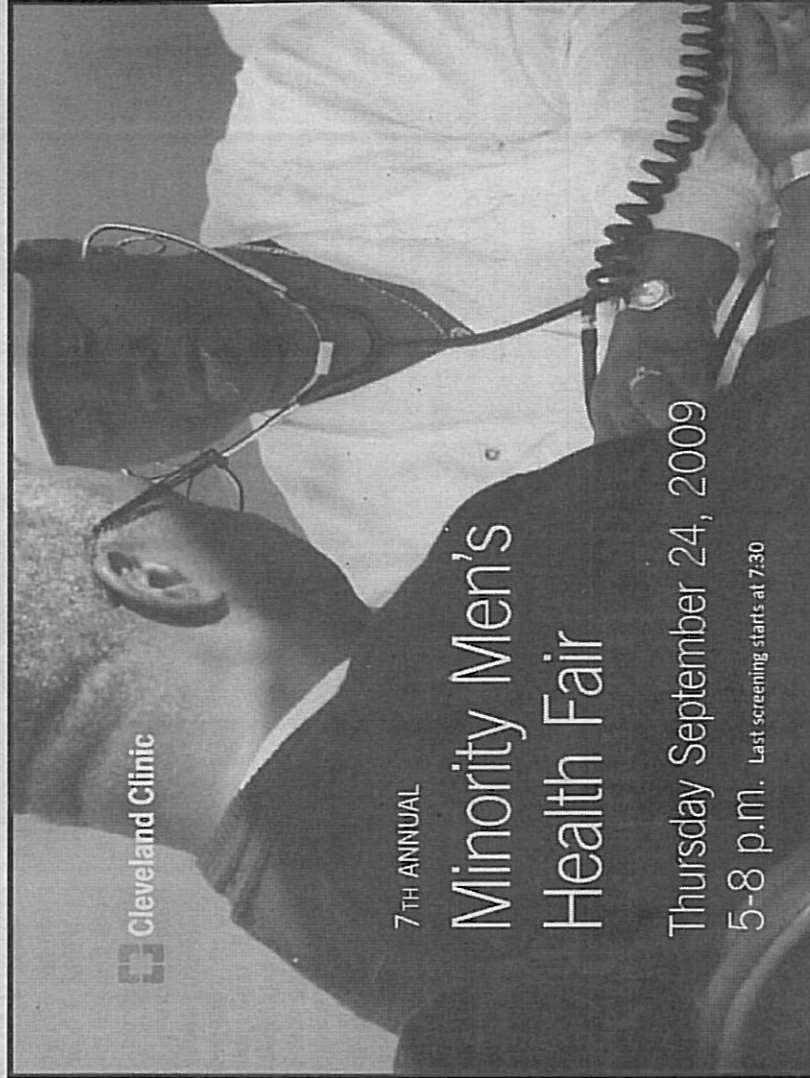
Connect to an extensive database of services — social, legal, medical services and so much more.

Save the Dream — 8884044674

<http://Savethedream.ohio.gov> for help with foreclosure prevention

## Department of Jobs and Family Services

[http://jfs.ohio.gov/ocomm\\_ro/umempresources.stm](http://jfs.ohio.gov/ocomm_ro/umempresources.stm) — Food stamps, Medicaid, OWF cash benefits, etc.



## Fresh Preventive Screenings

Prostate Cancer  
Diabetes  
Cholesterol

Glaucoma  
Blood Pressure  
Oral Cancer

Bone Density  
Sickle Cell

Lung Health  
Dental Screening

Heart Disease  
HIV

Kidney Function (GFR)  
Hepatitis C

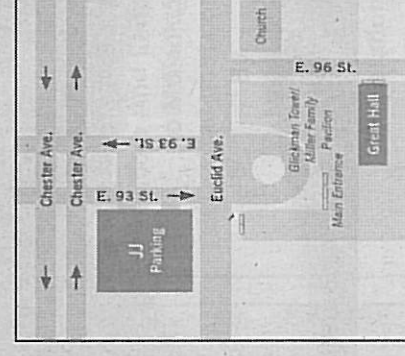
Skin Cancer  
Stress/Depression

Body Mass Index (BMI)

The health fair also includes FREE health seminars and information on topics including stroke prevention, smoking cessation, health and nutrition, exercise and wellness, organ donation, sports health, reproductive health, pain management and colorectal cancer.

## Skip the Line!

Register online at [clevelandclinic.org/mmhc](http://clevelandclinic.org/mmhc) by September 14



Minority Men's Health Fair  
Glickman Tower/Sydell and  
Arnold Miller Family Pavilion —  
Great Hall (Euclid Avenue &  
E. 93rd St.), Cleveland Clinic  
Main Campus.

You also may register in person at the event.

Please note that we cannot accommodate attendees any earlier than 4:30 p.m. on the day of the event.

Starting next month, the  
**CALL & POST**

will publish local and regional Death Notices, Obituaries and In Memoriam ads

For More Information Call: James W. Wade III  
216-588-6700 Ext. 262