

## Retirement and Insurance Service Benefits Administration Letter

Number: 03-103

Date: February 28, 2003

## Subject: Benefits Officers Resource Center (BORC) Emergency Customer Service

## **Background**

In the event of an emergency causing the Office of Personnel Management, Washington DC to evacuate the Theodore Roosevelt Building and service customers from emergency operating locations, the Benefits Officers Resource Center (BORC) will continue to provide essential services to its Headquarters-level Agency Benefits Officers from their private residences. The purpose of this letter is to facilitate the continuation of our core function of providing direct guidance and support to Headquarters Agency level Benefits Officers. This BAL provides emergency contact procedures, a listing of the functions BORC will maintain during an emergency, as well as the services that will be minimized or suspended, and an emergency point of contact listing to insure that all Headquarters Agency Benefits Officers have name, phone number and email address of their Emergency Operations BORC Liaison.

**Emergency Contact Procedures:** Although this Emergency Operations BAL is posted on the Web for all to read, the intent of providing this information is to facilitate the continuation of a high-level of customer service with our Headquarters-level Agency Benefits Officers and to highly encourage agency-level human resource professionals to refrain from contacting BORC by phone or email, and focus upon their HQ Agency Benefits Officer for retirement related guidance for the duration of such an emergency. Headquarters-level Agency Benefits Officers will be able to reach their assigned BORC Liaisons via phone or email as per the table which follows.

Irene Meader, Chief Liaison	Work Phone: 202-606-0788	E- Mail: eimeader@opm.gov
BORC Emergency Liaisons	Work Phone	E-Mail
Clyde Bronson	202-606-2529	cabronso@opm.gov
Candace Butler	202-606-2112	cebutler@opm.gov

Civil Service	Federal Employees'	Federal Employees	Federal Employees	Long Term
Retirement	Group Life	Health Benefits	Retirement	Care Insurance
System	Insurance Program	Program	System	Program

Johnny Bynum	202-606-4214	jrbynum@opm.gov
BORC Emergency Liaison	Work Phone	E-Mail
Phillip Gardner	202-606-4399	pkgardne@opm.gov
Bernice King	202-606-4742	mbking@opm.gov
Karen McManus	202-606-4881	kemcmanu@opm.gov
Linda Thompson	202-606-0794	lathomps@opm.gov
Connie Torrillo	202-606-0795	cetorril@opm.gov
Karla Yeakle	202-606-2728	kwyeakle@opm.gov

**Note:** The first action of BORC staff upon activation of emergency deployment is to forward work phone and OPM email to home.

## Services Maintained/Minimized/Suspended:

- BORC will continue to provide overall retirement program and emergency specific guidance to Agency Benefits Officers and Human Resources Professionals at all levels of government via Web-based announcements and list-serve emails. Contact with or response to individual inquiries (other than designated Headquarter representatives) will be minimized.
- 2.) BORC will continue to respond to the specific inquiries from Headquarter-level Agency Benefits Officers via phone and email. Fax, mail, and Records Requests capabilities will be minimal.
- 3.) Activity in support of the following events and functions will be suspended: Federal Benefits Conference, Fall Festival of Training, Benefits Product Sales, Contracting, and Contract Administration.

Listing of BORC Emergency Operations Liaison Designations: Attached is an alphabetical listing of the agencies whose Headquarters Agency Benefits Officers are served by BORC, showing their designated Emergency Operations Liaison. Note: In some cases, the emergency liaison is not the same point of contact which Headquarters Agency Benefit Officers would call during normal operations.

Raymond J. Kink

Raymond J. Kirk Director, Benefits Officers Resource Center Retirement and Insurance Services