## WILL COUNTY CARPENTERS, LOCAL 174

## Health, Welfare and Pension Funds

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TO:

PARTICIPANTS IN THE WILL COUNTY CARPENTERS

SUPPLEMENTAL PENSION FUND

FROM:

THE SUPPLEMENTAL PENSION FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE:

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2008** 

This is to inform you that on August 27, 2008 the plan actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and to the plan sponsor that the pension funds are considered to be in "seriously endangered" status for the plan year beginning June 1, 2008. This certification is not cause for alarm, it simply means that the plans satisfy certain funding criteria causing them to receive the "endangered" status designation under Federal law. This is because the Plan's actuary has determined that the Plan's funded percentage for 2008 is less than 80%. Of the three possible status outcomes (critical, endangered and healthy), the funds fall into the middle category. The funds are not now, nor have they ever been, in financial jeopardy.

This status certification is based on a new law. The Trustees are required to notify you of the plans' status and, in the future, you will receive an annual update of this status and the progress the plans are making toward meeting their funding goals.

Federal law requires pension plans in endangered status to adopt a funding improvement plan aimed at improving the plan's funded status. The funding improvement plan requires that the plan's funded percentage improve at least one-third of the way to 100% during the "funding improvement period" (10 years). The plan must also meet the Federal minimum funding requirements during this 10-year period. The funding improvement plan will be adopted by the Trustees and then provided to the bargaining parties for final approval.

## **Commitment to Continued Improvement**

With the past and future changes in place, the Trustees anticipate that the Fund will emerge from endangered status and continue to see improved funded percentages. The Trustees maintain their commitment to providing a retirement benefit which you can rely upon to pay a lifetime benefit that will play a significant role in your overall retirement planning.

## Where to Get More Information

You have a right to receive a copy of the funding improvement plan once it has been formally approved by the bargaining parties. It should be completed by the spring of 2009. To receive a copy, you may contact the Will County Carpenters Local 174 Supplemental Pension Fund Office at 1403 Essington Road, Suite 100, Joliet, IL, 60435 or by telephone at (815) 741-4737.

