

Company: Webco Industries; Corporate Office - Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Address: 363 Seneca Street Oil City, PA 16301 and 32 Progress Drive Reno, PA 16343

Pennsylvania Business: Manufacturer of Carbon Steel Tubing Products

Primary Markets Served: Automotive, Recreational Vehicles, Pressure Tubing, Mining & General Mechanical

Representatives:

1. Ryan Bell – Director of Operations for PS Facilities, 17 years with Webco and 25 years in industry. Rockland Township Auditor, Executive Committee member and Board of Director for the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce.
2. Bobbie Jones – Human Resource Manager for PA Facilities, 3.5 years with Webco and 11 years in Human Resources/workforce development. Executive Committee member and Board of Director for the NWPA Job Connect Board & Workforce Solutions Committee as well as Board of Director at the Venango County United Way.

Challenges with Unemployment Compensation system today:

1. Waiver of the work search and work registration requirements
 - a. Suspension of these requirements during the pandemic has removed the need for individuals to actively seek for employment and show proof of application or searched for new jobs.
 - b. Result:
 - i. The number of applicants has drastically & continually declined throughout the pandemic and has yet to show any signs of improvement. Despite the numerous new recruitment avenues, we are using, we continue to see a poor applicant response. Both the number of applicants as well as the qualifications possessed by the few applicants we do see continues to decline.
2. Extension of benefits and Federal \$300 weekly supplement
 - a. The financial eligibility benefit for individuals qualifying for the state maximum amount are now \$883 weekly when the federal supplement is added. The ability for someone to receive a potential total compensation of \$45,916 has become a very real deterrent to the employee recruitment process.
3. No way to communicate job offer refusals to PAUC.
 - a. We were forced to furlough and layoff employees at the start of the pandemic when so many “non-essential” industries shut down last March-May. Upon the return of our business volumes, we had multiple employees refuse to come back to work. Out of those, the reason topic of not feeling safe returning to work was not brought to us but rather the fact that they did not feel like returning to work at the time.
4. Appeal deadlines have passed before the letter is received by the employers.

With Kind Regards,
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With Kind Regards,
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