



News

September, 2020

Local 3634

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Solidarity in Everything

As a Union, one of the biggest challenges we face is having to consistently and constantly fight for and protect our "work rights" be they current ones, those we may acquire in the future as well as those that fall under "past practice" all of which matter very much within the labor movement. It's not too often that the Local has to solicit the membership for assistance in this effort but now we must issue an urgent "call to action." Our Sisters and Brothers at the Rail Operations Control Center (ROCC) have been under attack for over a year by management who has made the unilateral decision to strip away their right to bid on a weekly basis within the Vacation/Sick/Relief assignments. Management is claiming that supervisors don't have the right to select open shifts in order of position on the Vacation/Sick/Relief roster and that weekly bids have never been a common practice at Metro. However, we have history to disprove this.

ROCC Management has even falsely claimed that the Union agreed several years ago that management didn't have to follow the process for selection of assignments but when asked to provide proof of such an agreement they had no written documentation to justify or substantiate their bogus position. The Union is in the process of arbitrating this matter and, despite management's attempts to intentionally delay the process in resolving this and other issues, we will continually fight to keep our rights because once you allow one right to slip away, management goes after others.

The Union is in need of the following:

If you currently work or previously, within the last ten (10) years, held a Sick/Vacation/Relief position regardless of the work classification or location (including at the ROCC) and you

- A) participated in a weekly selection/bidding process for open assignments, vacation hold downs, sick or vacant shifts or
- B) performed in a smaller classification and worked a vacation shift or assignment of a peer that was out on medical leave

We ask that you provide us with a written verification of these facts. Please send the Local a statement via email, fax, or letter with your name, the work classification in which you held a Vacation/Sick/Relief position and the year(s) worked so that we can forward this information to our attorney to submit for the record. We would appreciate if you can submit these statements by **Friday, September 18th, 2020**. If your testimony is needed at the arbitration hearing, you will be released from work and compensated for your time as per Article 13.9 of our CBA. Although the injustice is happening in one work location at this time, we need to protect 20 years of work and effort put in by those who organized this Union to maintain our hard-earned rights.

Respectfully and In Solidarity,

Vanessa Morado, AFSCME Steward

Brother Al Cromer, AFSCME Local 3634 President

Elections will be here soon, are you registered to vote?

If not please do and tell your friends that they need to register and then you need to vote. You can't complain on the outcome of an Election or Bills if you don't vote.

On Sunday 8-23-2020 Channel 7 hosted an interview with Biden / Harris "The Ticket 1st Interview Special Edition 20/20".

It was one good interview. DNC & RNC Conventions were on this past 2 weeks, hope you listened or watched them. ***Please take this Election serious.***

Covid-19, Please stay safe, use your PPE, We need to on a daily basis Thank our Operators / and all Employees for coming to work. VO's / Division TOS's tell our Operators to tell their friends to come back to work. Make them aware of the many proposed service changes to include the Micro-Transit.

Veteran's, if you are not on the Metro VA Email list call or email Dennis Tucker (213) 418-3160 or Paul Yoon (213) 418-3126 for information on Veteran Affairs Benefits and Resources and Discounts.

Uniforms (TOS), Remember you are a Supervisor, wear what you are only authorized to wear, Uniforms should be neat and clean, put an Iron to it if you have to. Boots / Shoes are crying for (Kiwi), that's Polish. Remember Polo Shirts are to be tucked in. Window TOS's are making on the spot corrections, when operators are not in compliance, hats, facial piercings etc.

Do it at Sign-on, so they don't go sick on the line because a VO hurt their feelings correcting them.

It's not a difficult Task.

As another TOS once put it, and I agree, ***"Just Do your Job"***.

"Stay safe, respectfully"
Executive Board Officer
Ernie Paredes



Newsletter

Brothers and Sisters.

I'd like to share a few words with you all.

The Local is very well structured and organized.

The Executive Board is made up of some of the most well rounded Metro Employees with a vast majority of experience of all levels.

When it comes to labor and labor laws, I've come to know that our local is top notch dealing with these and many other issues.

I am definitely proud to say that I am an AFSCME member and part of the AFSCME family.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Ernie Ruiz

General Services Supervisor

Location 66 Maintenance of Way

Blue line. Green line. Expo line and Silver line.

In 2020

We reflect upon or future the uncertainty of our time. **We** must look to the past to know what our future holds. When during life great distances needed to be traversed people, they built bridges and crossed seas.

When mountains stood in our way, **we** climbed. When **we** looked out on the horizon and saw what looked like nothing, **we** faced those fears and walked towards the edge. Uncertainty is what life is. A course of events that are outside of our control. What **we** do have that is ours is the ability to react to these uncertainties how **we** see fit.

We are a family of people who share a common goal. The goal to give fair, ethical, and meaningful working conditions and pay. **Together we** can and will always survive uncertainty. Reflect on Cesar Chavez who united farm workers under a common banner, or Doctor King who died at the sanitation worker rally. They gave everything for a cause. **What** will be your cause? **When will you stand up for your brothers and sisters in arm?**

Peter Velasquez

Transit Operation Supervisor – BOC

Important information, please read

General Election is November 3, 2020

Registration Deadlines:

ONLINE Get Registered: Monday, October 19, 2020

BY MAIL: Monday, October 19, 2020

IN PERSON: Tuesday, November 3, 2020

For further info go to www.vote411.org/California

Retirement Information:

On this past Thursday August 27th, the MTA Board voted on and approved to initiate the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSIP) under the Cal PERS Retirement Plan.

Sometimes in the next 45-60 days MTA will roll out the guidelines and procedures for those who may be considering utilizing this retirement benefit. Once it begins all questions, inquiries and initiating the process will be handled by benefits.

Stay tune for further updates.

AFSCME Local 3634 Executive Board

