



Newsletter

October 2023

Local 3634

3375 E. Slauson Ave., Suite 233 - Vernon, CA 90058
Direct (213) 252-1395

Website: www.afscme-3634.org

FLSA Straight Exempt Overtime

The local wanted to provide information that we have come to an agreement with MTA management that will allow for our members in both pay grades IV and V to continue receiving overtime (straight) when the opportunities are available. The agreement will continue through the end of upcoming negotiations which will allow both sides to put in place more specific language and work out some other issues and concerns that were in the grievance filed back in May of this year. The agreement also has language that still allows the local to continue the grievance process if not settled by June 30, 2024.

We will have more specific information on the overtime distribution process after October 26th when we meet with management.

We thank you for your patience in this process.

AFSCME Local 3634 Executive Board



Assessment Account***

Sisters and Brothers:

This correspondence is the official notification required by our constitution regarding the assessment account scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2023.

The assessment account that began in February 2011, extended twice, will sunset on December 31, 2023, unless extended by you THE MEMBERSHIP.

The assessment account, which is additional to the regular Union dues, is totally for the use and benefit of Local 3634 and does not have to be shared or divided up with District Council 36 or AFSCME International as required with our dues.

The purpose of the assessment account was initiated to offset the annual dues increase required by both District Council 36 and AFSCME International as well as periodic per capita increases; we cannot refuse to pay those increases.

The assessment account has assisted the local in numerous ways:

1. The assessment has allowed us to have extra funds (attorney costs) to file and defend PERB charges against MTA with success (Triennial shakeup, Pandemic Appreciation Pay), arbitration victories (Vacation-Sick Relief) and currently our fight for the Quarterly Wage Adjustment (QWA).
2. Reprint contract books after our contract extension 2022-2024.
3. Entertainment events for the membership and family (e.g., Holiday parties and Family Fun Days).
4. Promotional Items for the membership (e.g., Jackets, shirts, bags, and cups).
5. Providing the local the means to invite members at large to participate in and gain valuable knowledge and experience in union workshops, Council 36 conventions, AFSCME International Conventions (Aug 2024), PEOPLE conventions (Oct 2023), the Upcoming Women's Empowerment Conference (Nov 2023) and the purchasing of sports tickets (Dodger games) that we have done recently.

We encourage all members to attend the October 28, 2023 (10a-12p) membership meeting to vote on this issue. The meeting will take place either in person 3375 Slauson Ave, Vernon CA 90058 or via zoom.

***An official letter was mailed out to the membership on October 3, 2023



CalPERS WORKSHOP

The Local will be collaborating with CalPERS for a virtual workshop on November 9, 2023, from 4p-5:30p. If you are interested in attending, please click the link below to register. This workshop is only for the CalPERS formulas: 2% @ 60 and 2% @ 62.

[CalPERS Workshop Registration](#)



CalPERS Workshop Registration





Local 3634 will host a Women's Empowerment Brunch themed "Unearthing Peace" on November 4, 2023.

The event will be held at 3375 Slauson Av, Vernon Ca 90058, 10a to 1p. Please RSVP no later than October 13, 2023, via our website afscme-3634.org or <https://www.afscme36.org/afscme-local-3634-womens-empowerment-brunch> or QR code:



Article 12: IBPS Meetings and Resolutions

Sisters and Brothers

The Local always emphasizes that the members read and understand the contract. You must actually read it to gain knowledge and familiarity. In Article 12.2.2 we have an Interest Based Problem Solving Process (IBPS for short). This is a pre-disciplinary process where issues are addressed by management involving the member in question. It is not a formal hearing but at times depending on the issue, the potential for discipline can happen. It has been an effective tool where the Union has been able to reduce and at times present documentation and other mitigating circumstances to management and there is no harm to the members at all but informal counseling. In other instances, this process has allowed the Union to minimize moderate or major discipline proposed.

One of the factors in the process that some members have not understood is that when there is a resolution agreed upon in an IBPS and the member accepts, which includes discipline at times it cannot be grieved. There are times where members come back weeks or months later wanting to file a grievance and we explain to them as we do in the actual IBPS meetings that it cannot be grieved. If you ever have an IBPS, (hopefully you won't) we want you to know and understand the possible outcomes (read Article 12.2.2, section c).

Reporting of Taking Medications

If you are prescribed medication by your doctor and or treating physician for whatever reason, please ask them if such medications will show up on a drug screen (random, post-accident or return to work). If you're told yes, please inform MTA with both a memo/email and request of them the form that lists medications you were prescribed and submit immediately. Always protect yourself and of course your employment.

Jury Duty: Article 31

Per our current CBA, we are compensated for 10 days within a 12-month period for jury duty (31.2). If you don't work a M-F work schedule or first shift, request of your management to place you on a schedule for the duration of time you actually will be on a trial (31.2.6). If you have to call in daily to check in with the court, please update your management asap if you are actually selected.





Take classes in Labor Studies at CSU Dominguez Hills!

Did you know that if you're taking at least two courses at a Community College, you can [cross-enroll a class at CSUDH](#) for only \$10?

The [BA in Labor Studies at CSUDH](#) prepares students for exciting, meaningful careers fighting for social justice with unions and non-profits, in human resources departments and government agencies, and more! Many LATTC students transfer to DH for their Bachelor's Degree, often after taking a course or two through cross-enrollment. Our [Fall semester courses](#) begin August 29th and include:

LBR 495: Special Topics- Fundamentals of Labor and Community Organizing- Prof. Rosemarie Molina (runs 7 Saturdays, October 21- December 9)

LBR 202: Class Struggles in Film and Popular Culture- Prof. Steve McFarland

LBR 310: Success and Values- Prof. Matt McGarvey

LBR 312: Decade of the Sixties- Prof. Alfredo Carlos

LBR 411: Contracts and Negotiations- Prof. Leisette Rodriguez (runs 7 Saturdays, Sept 1-Oct 14)

Check out the attached schedule and flyers for more details!

For info on these classes, and on the [BA in Labor Studies at CSUDH](#), Contact:

Dr. Steve McFarland, CSUDH Labor Studies Coordinator smcfarland@csudh.edu, (718) 314-1275.

Steve McFarland, PhD. (he)

Associate Professor and Chair of Labor Studies

California State University- Dominguez Hills

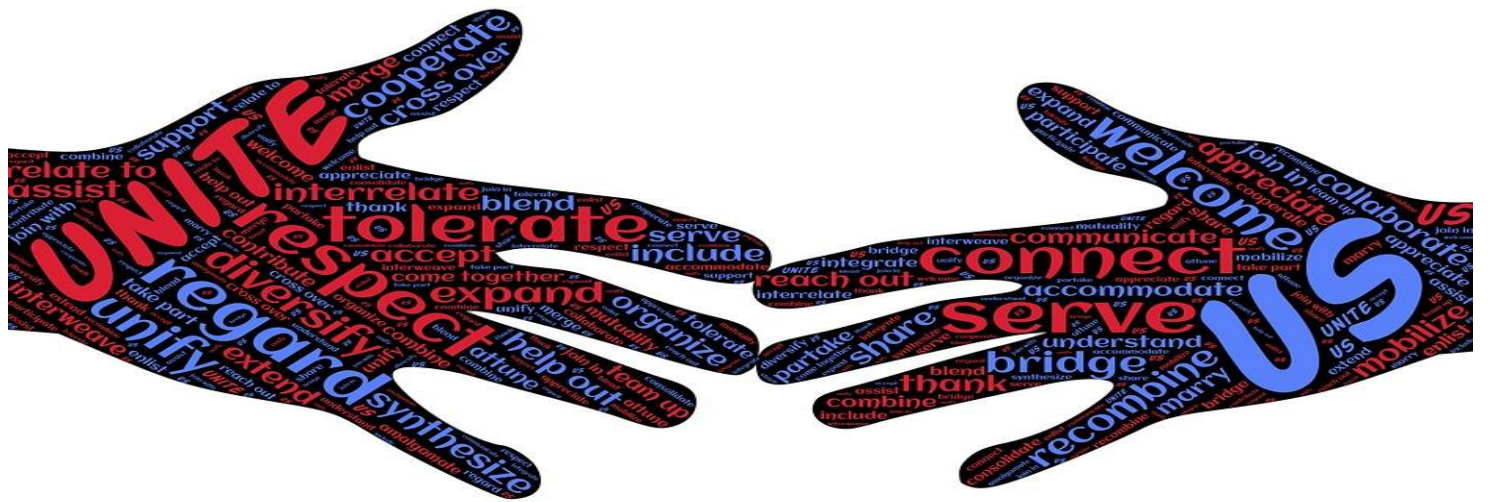
www.csudh.edu/labor-studies/

smcfarland@csudh.edu

File attachments:

[LBR 101- Intro to Labor Studies Flyer F2023.jpg](#)

[LBR 202- Class Struggles in Film & Pop Culture Flyer F23.jpg](#)



This meeting will be in person and virtually.

October 28th @ 10:00 am.

AFSCME Local 3634 is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: General Membership meeting

Time: October 28th, 2023, 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4556877610?pwd=SWhoZXIaeGIEOEp2SXFzMjFhV0NjZz09>

Meeting ID: 455 687 7610

Passcode: 162889

One tap mobile

+16694449171,4556877610#, *162889# US

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

Please make sure to update your personal contact information including your alternate contacts with Metro. It is especially important in times of emergencies that the employer may need to communicate at once, with you or your family for work and personal reasons.

Prosperity, Peace, and Good Health!!!

UNION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2024

<https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships>

AFSCME BENEFITS INFORMATION

Medical/Dental/Vision:



Nicole Patino Patinoni@metro.net

Milette Short ShortM@metro.net

Benefits.metro.net

PERS Contact METRO:

Nixony@metro.net

TOWP Contact:

hrisadmin@metro.net

For those of us who have CalPers for our pension, MTA has a contract with them and is just the intermediary. MTA doesn't make the final call on your retirement benefits and calculations. If you have any questions or problems related to PERS including your service credit, you need to communicate directly with them. If you haven't done so, create your account with them and monitor your service credit. **If you take off work for any reason and miss more than two complete months of work during the service credit year (July 1st to June 30th), it can be detrimental to your yearly credit and delay your retirement.** Again, the Union does not run the PERS retirement system. You must reach out to them.

Medicare Part B

If you are retiring soon or plan to do so in the near future and you'll be 65 or about to turn 65, please know that you are entitled to receive a Medicare part B supplemental stipend that is a reimbursement if you enroll for part B but you have to ask MTA about it when you retire. The supplemental stipend is \$164.90 in 2023.

Union Difference

Life is better in a union. Having a voice on the job means better pay, better health care, a more secure retirement, and so much more. It means having a say in safety, staffing, and other principal issues that help AFSCME members do their jobs and keep America running.