



Brothers and Sisters,

Your Executive Board wants to address a matter that's been weighing heavily on our minds. It's no secret that we, as members of Local 55, are a diverse group with different perspectives and priorities. However, there have been instances recently where the actions of some members have caused division and discord within our ranks.

We have observed certain individuals exhibiting behavior that can only be construed as selfish, as they seem to prioritize their own needs over the collective impact on other members. It's disheartening to see this attitude prevailing within our Union, as it goes against the essence of solidarity and mutual support that should define us. Specifically, members refusing mandatory assignments, using sick leave as an excuse to "protect" themselves, and manipulating our staffing rules have become the norm for some. These selfish decisions always have a downstream impact on the next member who is required to work.

A few examples that have occurred recently that do not support our core tenants of being part of our union;

- After being assigned mandatory overtime, a member went home mid-shift sick. They then claimed sick leave the next three consecutive days, including Thanksgiving, to remove themselves from mandatory overtime, causing a senior member to receive the mandatory assignment.
- Members accepting overtime and working a few hours of the shift then going home on sick leave. This action appears to be done with full intention and knowledge causing the apparatus to be placed out of service and requiring emergency call-back.
- Members flat out refusing mandatory overtime passing the assignment onto the next member.

When members act in a manner that prioritizes their personal gain at the expense of their fellow members, it undermines the strength and unity of our Union. It creates an environment of mistrust and resentment, eroding the sense of common purpose that should bind us together. The insular and self-serving mindset displayed by certain members weakens us, fosters a sense of division, and implies that one member's circumstances are more important than another.


As a union, we are stronger when we stand together, advocating for the greater good of all members. When some individuals seek to exploit the system for their individual benefit, it tarnishes the reputation of the Union as a whole. It undermines the trust and credibility we strive to maintain.

We need to remind ourselves that a union's fundamental principle is to ensure its members' well-being and fair treatment. When selfish behavior becomes pervasive, it undermines the very essence of what a union stands for. It's essential that we hold each other accountable and strive to act in ways that reflect genuine concern for the welfare of the entire union body.

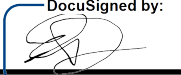
Let us all reflect on the impact of our actions and decisions on the collective membership. It's crucial to prioritize the broader interests of the Union over narrow, self-serving motivations. We must resist the temptation to prioritize individual gains at the expense of our fellow members, as such behavior weakens the fabric of solidarity that holds us together.

In closing, your Executive Board implores all members to recommit to the principles of unity, empathy, and mutual support that should define our Union. Let's strive to promote an environment where every member is valued, and decisions are made with the collective well-being in mind. By doing so, we can ensure that our Union remains a force for positive change and a steadfast advocate for the rights and welfare of all its members.


Thank you for taking the time to consider these thoughts. We believe that by working together with a shared sense of purpose, we can overcome the challenges we face and build a stronger, more inclusive union for the benefit of all.

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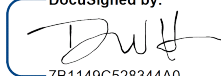
Sean Burrows - President

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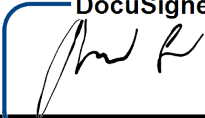
Eddie Dutch - Vice- President

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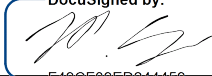
J.P. Elias - Secretary/ Treasurer

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Dave Huang - Advisory Board

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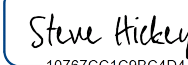
Brad Arganbright - B-Group Rep

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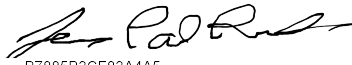
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Brian Centoni - Communications Director

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Steve Hickey - District 1

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Jeremy Roderick - District 2

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John Hill - District 4

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Gabe Maric - District 6

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Jay Gonsalves - District 8

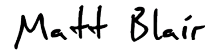
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Tyler Ecoffey - At-Large

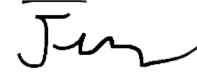
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Frank Harrah - District 3

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Matt Blair - District 9


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Trent Willis - FCCO Rep