

MAR 14

2018

UNION UPDATE

Working families, union members and community allies came together for a

# NATIONAL DAY of ACTION

CALLING FOR GOOD, UNION JOBS FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND FOR AMERICA



CHULA VISTA



LANCASTER



RIVERSIDE

## ON FEB. 26 WE ROSE AND OUR VOICES ECHOED ACROSS THE LAND

As the U. S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case aimed at weakening our power, we joined thousands of working people and community allies throughout the country and rose up in a National Day of Action for good union jobs, for our families and for our communities.

All in all, Local 1000 members joined many of the 200 actions all across California and 600 actions throughout the nation.

The court case, Janus v. AFSCME, is backed by the ultra-wealthy with the ultimate goal of limiting our collective power to bargain for better wages, benefits and retirement security.

Local 1000 Vice President for Bargaining Margarita Maldonado said working families won't be deterred by this latest attack on unions and that no matter what, we're pledging to stick together.

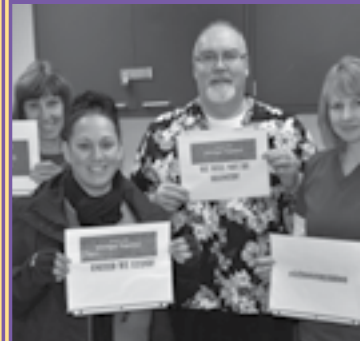
"While the Supreme Court considers whether people have the right to work for less, workers are considering their right to say, 'I Choose My Union, and no court case will ever stop me from sticking with my union and fighting for a better life for myself, for my family and for my community,'" she said. "Not now. Not ever."



SAN DIEGO



SACRAMENTO



PELICAN BAY



## #IChooseMyUnion

"I CHOOSE TO BE A MEMBER OF A UNION WHERE WE CAN WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH MANAGEMENT TO EFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR WORKPLACES AND FOR OUR MEMBERS."

BRENDA MODKINS - LEGAL ANALYST, DOJ, SAN DIEGO  
CHAIR OF BARGAINING UNIT 1, JOB STEWARD, DLC 701

### VELMA HOPKINS HELPED WRITE THE BOOK ON ORGANIZING

This month, we celebrate Women's History Month by highlighting those whose efforts have done so much to shape the landscape of labor today. One such leader is Velma Hopkins, who saw the power of developing leaders in the workplace.

Twenty years before the civil rights movement gained momentum, workers in Winston-Salem, NC, were fighting for their rights through Local 22 of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers-CIO.

Local 22 was an interracial union of workers and their supporters who demanded better treatment, wages and benefits from tobacco giant R.J. Reynolds. The union, led primarily by black women, was already pushing the boundaries of economic, racial and gender equality in the workplace.

In 1943, the death of a Reynolds worker sparked a 38-day strike for better working conditions, pay and equal rights. The action—10,000 strong—was led by Hopkins and others who saw an opportunity to better their lives.

Early on, Hopkins saw the value of investing in shop stewards as union leaders.

"Shop stewards were the most important people in the plant," she said. "They were the natural leaders, people who would take up money for flowers if someone died or would talk to the foreman even before we had a union."

The union structure reinforced the capabilities of such workers. "We had training classes for shop stewards: What to do, how to do it," Hopkins said. The shop stewards transformed the traditional paternalism at the factory into a system of benefits and responsibilities. They made collective bargaining a bill of rights.



*"I know my limitations, and I surround myself with people who I can designate to be sure it's carried out. If you can't do that, you're not an organizer."*

*-Velma Hopkins*

#### Resource Center

Monday-Friday  
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
866.471.SEIU (7348)

#### Website

[seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org)

#### Connect with Local 1000

Facebook  
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[twitter.com/seiu1000](https://twitter.com/seiu1000)



### Results announced for uncontested leadership elections

A number of candidates seeking Local 1000 leadership positions at the District Labor Council level, and as Classification Bargaining Unit Representative (CBUR), were unopposed in their candidacy. As such, they are deemed elected by default per SEIU Local 1000 Policy File Division 12, Section 12.1.05(f), and will assume office on or around June 30, 2018.

You can read and download a list of unopposed candidates online at [seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org)

Contested candidates will be listed in the 2018 SEIU Local 1000 Leadership Election Voter Guide and corresponding ballot material that will be sent out to SEIU Local 1000 members on April 20, 2018. There will be no posting or disclosure of contested candidates prior to this date.