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UNION UPDATE

LOCAL 1000

SEIU
Stronger Together

Pension Foes Look to the Future to Attack Members' Benefits

Former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed and former San Diego Councilmember Carl DeMaio, two failed politicians obsessed with taking away public employee pensions, have withdrawn their 2016 anti-pension ballot measures.

And while this means state workers will avoid a frontal assault on their hard-won benefits this election year, Local 1000 members need to remain vigilant as the pair plans to re-file for the 2018 ballot, pinning their hopes on a possible anti-union decision in *Friedrichs vs. California Teachers Association (CTA)*, a case currently being considered by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The *Friedrichs* case, while originating in California, has national implications. An anti-labor decision would mean that states like California, where public employee unions collect “fair share” fees from employees who choose not to become members, would no longer be compensated for representing those workers.

Reed and DeMaio know that working people standing together will never let their benefits be stripped away by the kind of right-wing interests they represent, so they are banking on the *Friedrichs* case dismantling the union power that keeps our members' pensions secure.



“We are a union of the willing. We will stand and fight, now and in the future, to protect what our members have earned.”

—*Yvonne R. Walker, Local 1000 President*

But, according to Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker, union power isn't going anywhere. *Friedrichs* or no, members who “step into the arena” and make their voices heard will continue to defend the rights of all workers.

“We are a union of the willing,” she says. “We will stand and fight, now and in the future, to protect what our members have fought for and earned.”

Victory ensures safer, healthier working environment for Ironwood LVNs

Temporary relocation caused heat exhaustion, slips and falls for members

Bargaining Unit 20 LVNs working at Ironwood State Prison have been assured of safer and healthier working conditions during prison construction after filing a grievance and ultimately winning a settlement during arbitration.

In July of 2015, nurses from the "A" yard were temporarily located into the prison gym as a result of a construction project. Our members were subjected to excessive levels of heat and humidity—exacerbated by ineffective swamp coolers—and reported multiple cases of heat exhaustion. Makeshift hose connections to the coolers and mats caused other members to slip and fall.

The parties initially deadlocked on settling the arbitration when the state would not agree to refrain from using the gym as a temporary location year-round during future construction projects – including the cold winter months.



"Expecting our members to provide health care in these conditions was outrageous. Representation by Local 1000 at Ironwood made all the difference for these hard-working nurses."

—Tamekia N. Robinson

Vice President for Organizing/Representation

In the final settlement of the grievance, CDCR agreed to not use the gym for LVNs during June, July, August and September 2016. CDCR additionally agreed that, should any of the four anticipated construction projects require the relocation of LVNs, CDCR will notify Local 1000 of the potential relocation and meet and negotiate with the Union and its members over the impact of any planned changes.

"Expecting our members to provide health care in these conditions was outrageous," says Tamekia N. Robinson, vice president for organizing/representation. "Representation by Local 1000 at Ironwood made all the difference for these hard-working nurses."

1000 *for* Local 1000

Build Our Team...Build Our Future

Become a member of the Local 1000 Action Team today

Becoming an Action Team Leader is making a commitment to serve as a critical and integral part of building the strength and power of our union. Local 1000 Action Teams will be worksite-based and will focus on building success in 2016 in the areas of bargaining, politics and worksite issues.

Members of the Local 1000 Action Teams will:

- Build a team of activists and leaders in their worksite
- Increase communication among members in their worksite
- Grow power through increased membership, COPE and activism
- Mobilize their coworkers to take action and move our Local 1000 program

Join with us now for a stronger future!

Make a commitment today at www.seiu1000.org/1000for1000 or call the Member Resource Center at **866.471.SEIU (7348)**

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