

AUG 16
2017

UNION UPDATE



CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL MEETS WITH DOJ STEWARDS

President Yvonne R. Walker and Vice President for Bargaining Margarita Maldonado brought our Department of Justice (DOJ) stewards and California Attorney General Xavier Becerra together to build collaboration with our union.

Stewards from across the state came together on Aug. 3 at the DOJ office in Sacramento and spoke with Becerra about ways we can partner on improving DOJ working conditions and on upward mobility opportunities for our members.

Building relationships with elected leaders to improve our jobs and communities is the direct result of having a strong union.

“I’m glad I chose to be part of a union that’s earned the respect of elected officials and department leaders like Attorney General Becerra,” said Shrhonda Ward, a job steward and Program Technician II at DOJ/Broadway. “Leadership and member power have given us a seat at the table in making changes in our workplace.”

Becerra said he recognized the “indispensable work Local 1000 members do,” noting that “nothing clicks unless everybody works together.”

Becerra—the state’s first Latino Attorney General—has been a voice for working families throughout his career. He’s returning to his roots at DOJ, having served as a Deputy Attorney General about 30 years ago. In between, he served one term as a state assembly member and was a 12-term congressional representative in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he was the first Latino to serve on the powerful Ways and Means Committee.

“In his work and career, he has used his voice to advocate for working people,” said President Yvonne R. Walker.



President Yvonne R. Walker (right) & Vice President for Bargaining Margarita Maldonado (left), with California Attorney General Xavier Becerra

CUSTODIAN TASK FORCE TARGETS BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS

Our Unit 15 members are launching a Custodian Task Force to improve working conditions and secure the proper equipment and chemicals to do their jobs.

The Task Force is just one of the wins our Unit 15 Bargaining Team achieved during the last round of contract negotiations. Custodians in four different state agencies— Department of General Services (DGS), Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), Department of State Hospitals (DSH), and the California Prison Industry Authority(CalPIA)—will participate in and benefit from the effort.

“This was a key bargaining win for us,” said Maria Patterson, Unit 15 Bargaining Chair and a DGS Custodian in Stockton. “We will be able to effect real change in the workplace because of the power of our union and our members.”

Members will participate in worksite meetings and fill out surveys that will empower the Task Force to negotiate for change in the workplace. “We need every custodian to step up to help us project power at the bargaining table,” Patterson said.

Members at Cal PIA will be fighting to be included in the recently won Unit 15 benefits: a shoe and clothing allowance and differential pay for their work supervising inmates.

“I chose to be a union member to make a difference for myself and my coworkers,” said Alfredo Cortez, a member of the Unit 15 bargaining team and the Task Force chair, who works at DGS in San Diego. “We can’t make progress unless we choose to stand together.”

Resource Center

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- ALFREDO CORTEZ

UNIT 15 BARGAINING TEAM, TASK FORCE CHAIR | DGS, SAN DIEGO