



Organized Labor

124th Year THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

Retrofitting SF's Transfer Tax to Get Trades Back to Work



Ventana Residences (99 Ocean Avenue), which opened last year in Balboa Park, are a partly-union-pension-funded, fully-union-built large-scale residential development that offers up 12-plus percent of its units as affordable housing. The community and workforce benefits of such a project mean its transfer tax burden would be cut from 6% to 3% under new legislation proposed by SF supervisor Ahsha Safai.

Plan Would Cut High-End Real Estate Tax for Union-Built, Pension-Backed Residential Projects

By Robert Fulton
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Legislation recently introduced by San Francisco supervisor Ahsha Safai could go a long way toward stimulating much-needed housing development, putting union pension dollars to work, and providing plenty of union construction jobs for the building trades in the City — all in one fell swoop.

How would this trifecta of success be achieved? Believe it or not, the answer involves a tax cut on certain high-dollar real estate

transactions. Safai's plan would reduce the City's transfer tax, which kicks in when the highest-value properties are sold in the City, from 6% to 3% — but only for new housing developments that are financed by at least \$25 million in investment from union pension funds, built with union labor, and include at least 12% on-site affordable units.

Safai's proposal would also apply the 3% transfer tax reduction to the sale of any developments completed since 2014 that meet the above qualifications. Such properties would include 101 Polk

Street (The Civic), 100 Van Ness, and 99 Ocean Avenue (Ventana Residences), all of which many local building trades members will remember working on.

If all goes to plan, the proposal will help provide significant remedies to some of San Francisco's most pressing needs: work for workers, housing for working people, and more of the right kind of investment in the City.

A Surgical Approach

Safai, who represents SF District 11 and is now running for mayor, said that he did his research

and considered a number of different tools that might jump-start development while also creating housing. His transfer tax reduction proposal is the outcome of that work. He characterized it as a "win-win-win-win."

"We needed to do something aggressively to get [new housing development] going, and we want to put union people to work, put union money to work," Safai said.

The San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council is a sponsor of the legislation and counts the supervisor as an ally; earlier this month, it granted one

of its dual endorsements for mayor to Safai. (The other went to former interim mayor Mark Farrell.)

Safai spoke about his experience meeting with investors around the country as a member of the SF Retirement Board, which oversees retirement plans for city workers. Those conversations helped him better understand the barriers to investment in San Francisco.

"We want to jump-start [developers'] desire to move forward on projects that are sitting on the sidelines," Safai said. "We saw the opportunity to move this forward."

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ON THE Job Site

PUC Biodigester Work Continues Underground and Above

By George Verlaine
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The torrent of work-hours continues to flow for a significant number of Bay Area tradespeople at the Biodigester project in Bayview-Hunters Point.

The Biodigester is the result of a \$3 billion investment by the San Francisco Public Utilities



Commission to bring its Southeast Treatment Plant up to modern standards. This transformative, cutting-edge infrastructure project is being managed by a partnership of general contractors MWH and Webcor Builders.

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As Election-Year Nastiness Hits a Fever Pitch, Let's Focus on What We Have in Common — Not What Divides Us



By Rudy Gonzalez
SF BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL
SECRETARY-TREASURER

A Happy Fourth

For me, Independence Day 2024 was one to remember. I traveled to Missouri to celebrate the Fourth of July with extended family.

My sister-in-law and her partner wanted his family, which is mostly from Ohio, to get together with hers, which is mostly from California. So, we met somewhere in the middle at Lake of the Ozarks. It's one of the largest manmade lakes in the world and a prime example of a proper heartland recreation area, with vast expanses of water for boating, skiing, and jet-skiing; multiple state parks to explore along the shore; and "party



Isaac catches a fish at Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri.

coves" in which to drop anchor, drink beer, and bob around in the lake.

I'm happy to report that it was a whole lot of fun. We ate hamburgers on a pontoon boat at night under the stars, watched the fireworks go off, and listened to Ray Charles blast out of the speakers singing "America the Beautiful."

We also celebrated my youngest child Isaac's seventh birthday. While family decorated the vacation home and made cupcakes, Isaac hit the docks for some fishing and landed his first catfish. It was a total trip to watch my Oakland-raised city boy take to the country life like it weren't nothin'.

I'll admit that going into the trip without having spent much time with Midwesterners, I was expecting my experience might be something like "City Slickers" meets "National Lampoon's Vacation" meets "Meet the Fockers."

Boy, was I wrong.

The blending of families brought diverse life experiences and political views together under one roof for a proper vacation that anyone would have enjoyed, with all of the positive vibes that entails. Sure, it was the Fourth of July, but the spirit of the gathering was focused less on the Declaration of Independence being signed at the Second Continental Congress and more on what it means to be American today — in other words, practical stuff.



Glaziers across the Bay are currently on strike.

We embraced one another as family. We saw commonality before differences. We were OK with the fact that we weren't perfectly aligned on every little issue, because at the end of the day, we got along just fine

based on having found common ground.

Watching the kids interact, I was happily reminded of how awesome young people are at finding the common ground that we jaded

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San Francisco Building and
Construction Trades Council
UNION-STRONG SINCE 1896

The official newspaper of the
San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO
825 Van Ness Ave., #301, San Francisco, CA 94109
Ph: (415) 345-9333 | Fax: (415) 345-9449

USPC 411-860, ISSN 00199-6452

Published since February 1900, *Organized Labor*
is issued monthly by the SF Building & Construction Trades Council.
Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco and additional post offices.

SUBSCRIBERS: Please send any change-of-address requests directly to
your local, **not** to the publication. Each local keeps its own membership
lists current for all correspondence, including subscriptions to *Organized
Labor*. Please contact your local directly with any questions. Thank you.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Organized Labor c/o SF Building Trades Council
825 Van Ness Ave., #301, San Francisco, CA 94109

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ON FRIDAY, JUNE 28, the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council publicly announced its endorsements for SF mayor in the November election. That's right: endorsements — plural.

Rank-choice voting in the City means the council can comfortably throw its support behind two candidates that it sees as most viable, union-friendly, trustworthy, and wise. Those candidates are **Ahsha Safaí and Mark Farrell**.

Keep it tuned to *Organized Labor* in the coming months for in-depth profiles on Farrell and Safaí, as well as plenty of coverage on why this council believes they're the right choice for both the City and the trades heading into the future.

ON THURSDAY, JULY 11, President **Floyd Rollins** of San Francisco Firefighters Local 798 published the following open letter to the editorial board of the San Francisco Chronicle. In it, he lays down some hard truths in defense of a fairness-restoring citywide ballot proposal and its advocate in City Hall against our newspaper of record's cynical, uninformed grumbling.

I'm responding to the July 8 editorial regarding proposed pension measures for the November ballot. In this piece, you unfairly criticize Supervisor Catherine Stefani's motives in authoring a measure regarding firefighter retirement by stating, "Stefani's proposed measure is particularly confusing because she's nearly out the City Hall door..."

This spring, San Francisco firefighters came to Supervisor Stefani asking for help. The dozen-year experiment of extending firefighters' careers by three years to the age of 58 had run up against everything we've learned about cancer and firefighting. We needed to fix this.

Cancer is the leading cause of occupational death among firefighters. In San Francisco, over 300 active and retired firefighters have died from cancer since 2006, and over 200 have been diagnosed with cancer in the past six years.

The overwhelming majority of those diagnosed were over 50. This is the age when the elevated risk firefighters face due to their profession combined with the elevated risk we all face with age.

To limit exposures to cancerous materials, we should reduce incentives for firefighters to stay on the job longer than they absolutely must. A life of service to San Francisco shouldn't end with a battle against occupational cancer.

This was the problem we presented to Supervisor Stefani. She listened, acted, and has added additional cost-saving measures to the initial draft. Now a proposal is pending with the BOS that would allow voters to make the final decision.

Stepping up to protect firefighters from cancer isn't "confusing." It's the right thing to do, and we thank Supervisor Stefani for her efforts.



To read the SF Chron op-ed that prompted Rollins' letter, scan the QR code.



ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, AFL-CIO President **Liz Shuler** released the following statement regarding a new rule from the Biden administration to ensure that workers on projects funded by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) receive fair wages in compliance with the federal law's prevailing wage statute.

These new wage regulations are a historic win for working people, made possible with the culmination of decades of advocacy by the labor movement and years of work by the Biden-Harris administration. Today, we fulfill one of the key promises of the Inflation Reduction Act: that we can create good-paying union jobs and advance clean energy policy at the same time.

By bringing the full weight of federal law to secure fair wages on IRA-funded projects, the Biden-Harris administration is ensuring that workers who join the clean energy sector can keep earning wages in line with those they've won through hard-fought contract negotiations. The regulations will encourage developers to do right by the workers they hire, support the increase of apprenticeships, and build the clean energy workforce.

Union members are ready to work — and now, with the opportunity for fair wages, we will build the economy of the future, just as we have with every technological advancement in our country's history.

ON THURSDAY, JUNE 13, the Bay Area's trades workers lost a gem of a labor leader when their brother **Franz E. Glen**, age 93, passed away peacefully at his home.

Glen was born in San Rafael but moved to San Francisco at age 3. He graduated from the City's Polytechnic High School and attended both the University of San Francisco and Golden Gate College.

In 1950, he joined IBEW Local 6 and became an apprentice inside wireman. This is when it all started to take shape for Glen.

He rose rapidly through the ranks of his local and soon became one of the Bay Area's foremost labor advocates in the electrical industry. During his wide-ranging, decades-long career as a union electrician and trade unionist, Glen would serve in a truly impressive number of elected offices, as well as in board and committee membership positions within his local, the California State Association of Electrical Workers, the Northern California Joint Conference of Electrical Workers, the Electrical Industry Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, and the IBEW International.



All of that wasn't enough for committed unionist Glen. He would also throw his efforts into the broader building trades of the City from 1968 clear through to 1987, during which time he represented the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council on the executive board of the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, and serve variously as president and vice president of this council. He also spent time as president of the board of directors of the *Organized Labor Publishing Company*.

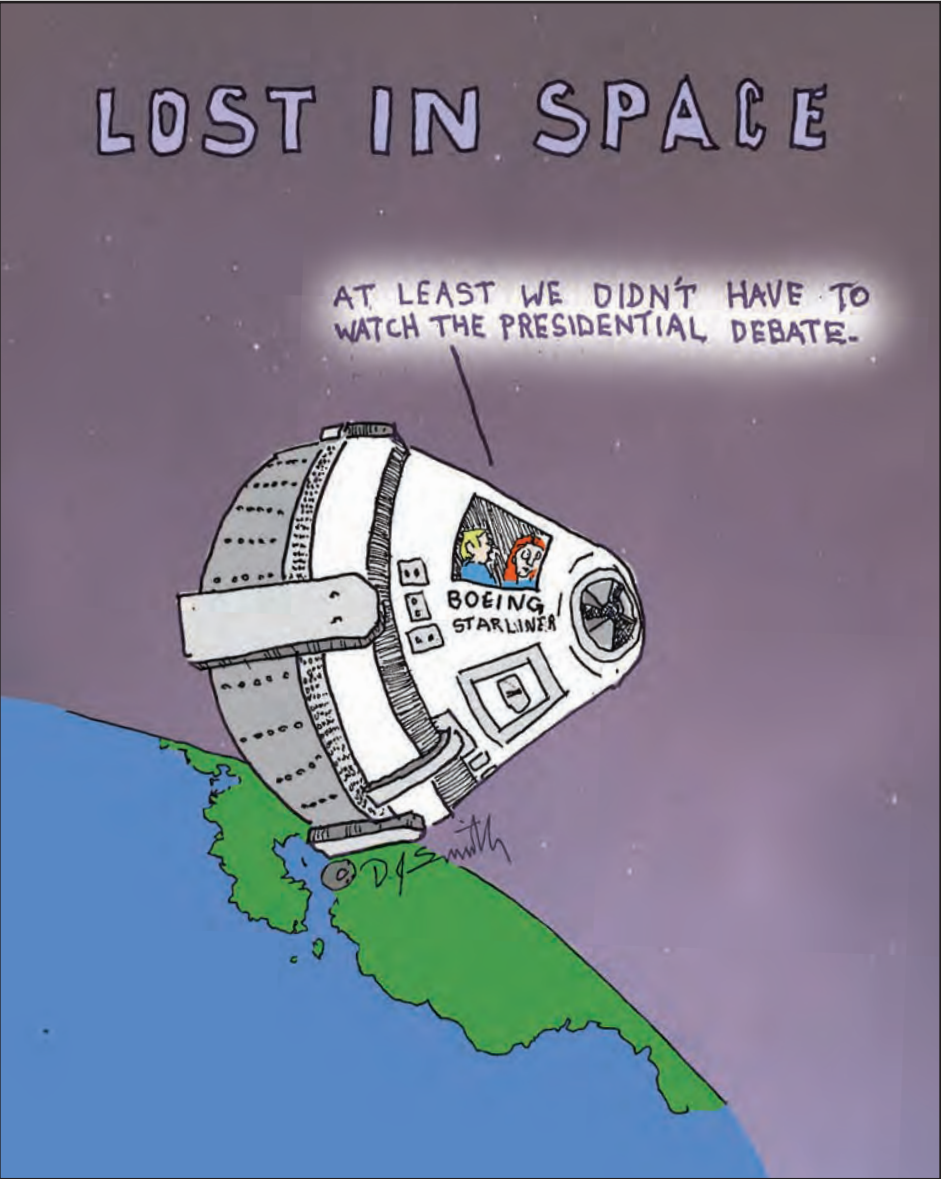
In 1999, Glen entered into a well-earned retirement. He was preceded in death by his wife, Glenys, and is survived by his three children and numerous grandchildren.

This council mourns the passing of this tireless trade unionist. Brother Glen's lifetime of advocacy for our movement should be commended, commemorated, studied, and emulated. May he rest in peace.

To read more details about Glen's accomplishments, turn to Local 6's July column on page 13.

PENCILING OUT

BY DAVID JAMES SMITH





JERRY NEIL PAUL

An Advocate for the Building Trades
Asbestos-Related Mesothelioma, Lung Cancer and Asbestosis

The Paul Law Firm has been representing the California Building Trades for the past 35 years. We have always been a California-based law firm, specializing in asbestos-related diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis, and representing the individual members. We are proud to say that we have had many landmark settlements and verdicts for our union brothers and their families totaling over \$3 Billion. One of the highlights of my career was when I, along with our mesothelioma client, Billy Joe Speicher from U.A. Local 250 Steamfitters/Pipefitters, went before the U.S. Senate and testified in front of the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, regarding asbestos legislation.

Jerry is also a Founder of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America (www.mesorfa.org), along with his wife, Elizabeth Ann Paul, Executive Director, and Jim W. Kellogg, retired International Representative of the California Pipe Trades and past Vice President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, who have all served as Board Members since 2001. Since this time, we undertook the successful funding and opening of a mesothelioma research lab at USC/Norris Comprehensive Medical Center in Los Angeles under the direction of Lab Director Dr. Parkash Gill. Over the past 15 years novel new treatment options Veglin, which went through FDA-approved clinical trials phase 1 and 2, and now EPH B4, in FDA-approved clinical trials phase 1, have helped expand the depth of research and expand the types of treatment options. This offers greater hope to those afflicted with asbestos-caused cancer, with options not previously available. None of this could have been done without the support of the Building and Construction Trades Council of California and also Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, the Heat & Frost Insulators 16, along with the support from the Western States Conference, and all their able leaders and supporting local unions.

As asbestos disease and mesothelioma tend to surface later in life, we recommend workers take a chest X-ray screening every three years where the results are examined by a certified B reader radiologist, a doctor who is additionally trained to know what is and is not an asbestos marker and asbestosis. Plus you will increase your chance of discovery at an early stage, should you have lung cancer, which would likely respond better to treatment options.

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For the Second Time in Under a Year, Statehouse Democrats Deny Striking Workers Their Benefits

By Robert Fulton | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A recent bill in the California State Legislature that would have allowed striking California workers to collect unemployment insurance (UI) benefits has been killed — by Democrats. The bill met its demise in an assembly committee last month apparently due to perceptions about recent University of California worker strikes and protests against Israel’s war on Hamas in Gaza.

California Senate Bill 1116, introduced by Senator Anthony Portantino of Burbank and co-authored by Senator Maria Elena Durazo of Los Angeles, would have given striking workers access to their UI benefits once they’d been on strike for two weeks, and would have capped benefits at a certain point. Even with these limitations, SB 1116 would’ve been a godsend for those who have made the difficult — and long-term — decision to request and win sanction to withhold their labor and forego their paychecks in an attempt to achieve better working conditions.

How did this happen? Let’s start with some background.

Why Strikers Deserve UI Benefits

There are numerous reasons to give UI benefits to striking workers. These benefits provide a small but often desperately needed financial lifeline for food,

rent, mortgage, and bills. They help combat the common bully tactic of employers waiting out a strike in an attempt to starve their striking workforce into submission. They help stabilize local economies affected by strikes.

How do we know this? Because granting striking workers their UI benefits is already the law of the land in New York and New Jersey, so we’ve seen the positive outcomes.

To top it off, workers already pay into the state’s UI fund. It’s their money, and they’re entitled to it.

Considering the reasons, you’d think the solidly (and mostly pro-labor) Democratic state lawmakers we’ve elected to represent us here in California — a supposed bastion of liberal, pro-worker policy — would have no trouble passing this legislation.

Well, you’d be wrong. An identical bill to SB 1116 sailed to Governor Gavin Newsom’s desk last year, but in a short-sighted move, Newsom vetoed it, citing “funding concerns.” The state’s unemployment insurance fund was some \$20 billion in the red at the time due to money it borrowed from the federal government to disburse UI funds during the Covid pandemic. But it’s unrealistic to think that extending UI benefits to striking workers would’ve been a frequent enough occurrence to somehow worsen this debt.



PHOTO COURTESY UAW LOCAL 4811

University of California academic workers who are unionized under UAW Local 4811 march at UC Davis during a May strike related to the UC’s treatment of pro-Palestine demonstrators. Last month, during a committee meeting, state assemblymembers used this California Labor Federation-sanctioned strike as the reason to kill a bill that would’ve allowed striking workers statewide to access their UI benefits.

This year, SB 1116 enjoyed broad support from labor statewide. The California Labor Federation sponsored the bill.

It should’ve been a slam-dunk. Instead, it got deflated immediately after tipoff.

Global Politics Kill the Bill

It happened after SB 1116 co-author

Durazo presented the bill to the Assembly Standing Committee on Insurance during a hearing on Friday, June 26. She outlined all of the good reasons that the bill should sail through the hearing, emphasizing the fact that striking is an economically devastating sacrifice undertaken by workers

continued on next page



Summer Water Safety



As temperatures rise and you and your loved ones head to the pool, waterparks, beach, etc., here are some tips to ensure you and your loved ones stay safe this summer:

- Provide active and constant supervision of young children
- Learn to swim, no matter your age
- Swim in lifeguard designated areas

- Swim with a buddy and never alone
- Wear a life jacket when on a boat or in open water
- Learn CPR

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July 2024

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as a last resort to achieve fair working conditions.

The trouble started when the committee began discussion. That's when Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan of Orinda spoke about a recent strike by the UC's UAW-represented academic workers. That strike was called primarily to protest the arrests of nonviolent pro-Palestinian demonstrators on campus but also to confront disciplinary actions taken against UC employees engaged in peaceful protest activities, along with other grievances.

Bauer-Kahan, a Democrat who voted for UI benefits last year, appeared to disagree with the legitimacy of the UC strike despite the fact that it was sanctioned by the Cal Labor Fed.

"I no longer understand if we have a shared understanding of what a strike is," she said. The assemblywoman, who is a granddaughter of Holocaust survivors, emotionally expressed her concerns based on reports of antisemitism on campus during the strikes.

"I cannot support sending unemployment insurance to individuals who will [claim to be on strike due to] working conditions," said Bauer-Kahan, pulling her support of the bill.

Others on the committee then began to express similar reservations.

Durazo, who is familiar with strikes from her leadership at Unite Here and as head of the L.A. County Federation of Labor, tried to keep the focus on the rights of striking workers.

"A basic premise in the labor movement is being able to go out on strike," Durazo said to the committee. "This

is about those working men and women having the ability to take on these horrible working conditions. That's what this bill is about.

"We have to stand up for everyone," she added. "We can't be pitted against each other."

In an attempt at compromise, the bill's authors said they were prepared to amend the legislation to clarify what strikes would be covered.

Bauer-Kahan called the amendments "meaningless," and the committee rejected them.

SB 1116 died in committee, with only six members voting yes, two voting no, and five abstaining.

CA Union Workers Collectively Punished

Lorena Gonzalez, principal officer of the Cal Labor Fed, responded to the debacle in a statement issued shortly after the bill's demise, noting that a supermajority of assemblymembers and senators passed an identical bill last year.

"The failure to pass this bill only punishes grocery workers, janitors, hotel housekeepers, and other workers on strike demanding a better life for themselves and their families," she said in the statement.

SF Building Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez also expressed frustration at the bill's failure, pointing out that the striking UC workers would not have qualified for UI benefits anyway because of the brief duration of their strike. (How their strike ended is its own troubling story.)

"I didn't expect Democrats to oppose benefits that employees have paid into and are rightfully owed," he said. "I don't know how you call yourself a Democrat and vote against giving workers their unemployment insurance." **OL**

Transfer Tax
continued from page 1

Alex Lantsberg sits on the City's Housing Stability Fund Oversight Board and is the research and advocacy director for the San Francisco Electrical Construction Industry. He described Safai's proposal as a "surgical" way to get projects moving that will be built by union labor.

Lantsberg also pointed out that Safai's proposal is possible because of Proposition C, which the City's voters passed in March. Prop C allows for a one-time transfer tax exemption for owners of properties converted from commercial to residential following conversion and authorizes the SF Board of Supervisors to amend the transfer tax without voter approval.

A More Targeted Taxation

The proposal has drawn support from the leadership of the Emerald Fund and the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust (HIT), two big Bay Area players that use pension-fund investing in their development projects.

Ted Chandler, senior managing director of strategic initiatives for HIT, is bullish on Safai's proposal.

"I think it's a really common-sense way to stimulate additional investment in the City to get affordable housing built, to put union members to work, to strengthen union pension funds," Chandler said. "I think it's something that every city should look at doing. I think that doing this kind of [...] relief — where it's targeted to a narrow group of investors who bring additional benefit to a city — makes sense."

It was back in November 2020 when SF voters passed Proposition I, doubling the City's real estate transfer tax on commercial and residential properties valued between \$10 million and \$24.99 million from 2.75% to 5.5%, and on properties valued at \$25

million or more from 3% to 6%.

Oz Erickson, founder and chairman of the Emerald Fund, despises Prop I. He said it was sold to voters as a mansion tax, but once enacted, it didn't deliver as promised. Its negative impact on large-scale residential development wound up dwarfing its intention of getting a fair share from the personal-mansion-dwelling-and-selling set.

Erickson said that it was a mistake for Prop I to have not exempted union-pension funded projects from the tax increase in the first place.

"[Prop I] is an entirely regressive tax," he said. "It falls on teachers. It falls on construction workers. It falls on people who have no means. It should never, ever have been passed. If it was truly a mansion tax, that's what it should have been. It never should have been a tax that fell on construction workers. Never."

Stimulating Development

Both Erickson and Chandler believe that Safai's proposal will stimulate development.

"It makes the math of development easier to make work," Chandler said, citing the myriad factors that play into new housing projects.

Erickson sees eliminating transfer taxes as a valuable tool to spur development.

"In my professional opinion, all transfer taxes should be eliminated for construction-union projects for some extended period of time in order to stimulate jobs for the construction industry," he said.

Rudy Gonzalez, secretary-treasurer of the SF Building Trades Council, also thinks Safai's proposal will get more development going faster. Gonzalez praised the proposal as a "strategic economic recovery tool."

"When you jump-start pension investments into building projects, we can get our people back to work — simple as that," he said. **OL**

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What John Roberts Has Wrought

His Majority Opinion Striking Down the SEC's Jurisdiction May Not Apply to the NLRB, but It's Too Early for Unions to Breathe a Sigh of Relief



This guest column was written by Editor-at-Large **Harold Meyerson** of The American Prospect, a longstanding Washington, D.C.-based progressive public policy magazine. This column was originally published on www.prospect.org on June 27.

At first glance, last month's U.S. Supreme Court ruling striking down the Securities and Exchange Commission's right to use its own administrative courts to enforce securities laws can be read as also imperiling the functions of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) — and, by extension, the future of American unions — as the Board also relies on its own administrative courts to enforce the laws against unfair labor practices.

At second glance, the majority decision, authored by Chief Justice John Roberts, appears to have exempted the NLRB from its strictures.

At third glance, the Court still has pending a case that could strip powers from most regulatory agencies; Amazon, SpaceX, and Trader Joe's have filed a separate suit in federal district court specifically challenging the NLRB's powers; and Justice Sam Alito's record of actually inviting lawsuits that challenge the power of unions is such that his hatred of organized workers must be viewed as a persistent threat to the Board, as well as to the nation's workers.

Unpacking those glances, one by one: By a 6-to-3 margin divided on ideological lines, the Court ruled on Thursday, June 27, that the SEC's power to use its own administrative courts to rule on cases such as fraudulent misrepresentation — powers expanded by the Dodd-Frank Act in the wake of the 2008 financial collapse and the revelations of chicanery that contributed to it — violated the Constitution's separation of powers by depriving the accused of their day in a real federal court. The SEC was established, of course, precisely to rein in



ILLUSTRATION BY FLICKR USER DONKEYHOTKEY

misconduct by banks and other financial institutions, and it has long had the kind of expertise in such matters that is very often lacking in “real” courts. That's probably why a 2017 study of the alleged bias of the SEC's administrative courts revealed that its decisions — their rates of convictions and acquittals — matched those of those real courts.

The ruling's shift in jurisdiction from the agency to the courts, then, amounted to a “power grab” by the Court and for the Court, in the words of the dissenting opinion of Justice Sonia Sotomayor. At second glance, however, Roberts, in seeking to specify which kinds of agency courts were kosher and which weren't, seemed to give the NLRB an out.

He cited the Court's 1937 ruling in *Jones and Laughlin Steel* — the decision that upheld the newly enacted National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) — as making clear that the kinds of rulings delivered by the NLRB's administrative bodies were exempt from his decision. The NLRB's rulings deal with the “unfair labor practices” specified in the NLRA, which are not themselves the subject of other laws that would come before the courts. Roberts may have concluded that the Court's standing with the public was already so dismal that a decision that effectively defanged unions, whose standing with the public is at a 50-year high, wasn't a particularly politic move.

The current NLRB general counsel,

Jennifer Abruzzo, has been working to speed up the Board's remedies for the particular unfair labor practice that employers customarily use to deter their workers' unionization campaigns: illegally firing the most pro-union workers. The NLRA's remediation, should the employer be found guilty, requires the rehiring of the fired worker(s) — which, if done promptly, could keep the union drive going and perhaps even boost its prospects.

Should those cases be shifted to the courts, however, the time elapsed before a decision could come down would surely be so long that the unionization campaign would likely have long since ceased to exist, thereby effectively blocking workers' right to collective bargaining.

But Roberts's apparent NLRB exemption in his decision might not be the Court's final word. The Court still has one more case to rule on in this session that could weaken all regulatory agencies (and enlarge the powers of the Court). The lawsuit brought by Elon Musk's and Jeff Bezos's companies challenges the NLRA on somewhat different grounds — that of the Board wearing too many hats (the affront to their own sovereignty and the disdain with which the world's richest men view their workers' attempt to gain some modicum of workplace power and security are surely the *de facto* cause, but not the *de jure*). And nothing in the history of this Court, and particularly Alito's ability to push it to extremes in weakening the rights of women and workers, should inspire any confidence that it won't be coming for the NLRB in future sessions.

So, did American workers dodge a bullet on June 27? They may well have, but others are still flying around. **OL**



Nothing in the history of this Court should inspire any confidence that it won't be coming for the NLRB in future sessions.

ON THE Job Site

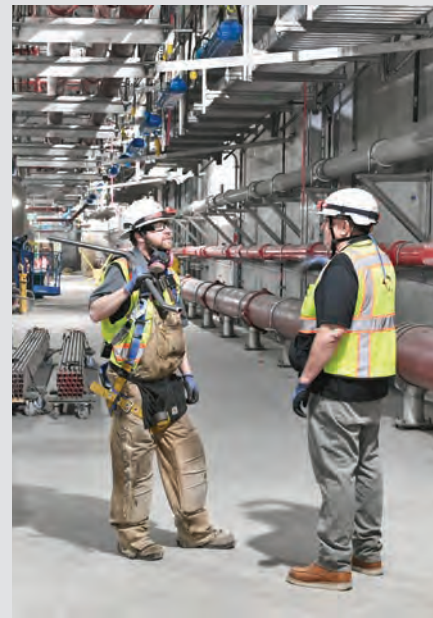
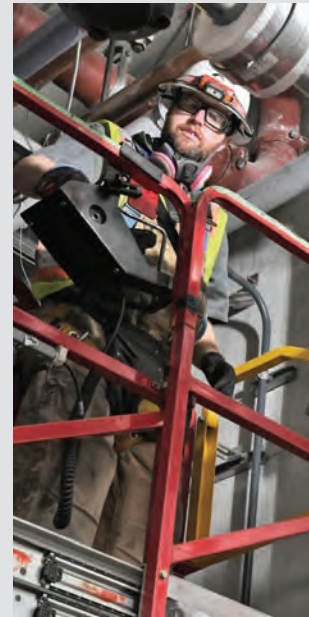
continued from page 1

Construction was already well underway nearly a year ago when we first visited for an “On the Jobsite” photo feature, but the progress since last August has been immense.

We showed up on a busy Thursday earlier this month and found a whole new crop of union trades workers on the job, in addition to some familiar faces from last year. This time around, countless plumbers and electricians were hard at work in labyrinthine subterranean tanks and tunnels installing thermal hydraulic steam systems and supply and return pump stations that’ll eventually treat the Biodigester’s sludge.

That’s just scratching (below) the surface. Above ground, we met teamsters, laborers, operating engineers, and more. They all seemed to be genuinely enjoying the work and the camaraderie on the jobsite.

Enjoy the photos. **OL**





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Administrative Office
2149 Oakland Road
San Jose, CA 95131
Phone: (408) 824-1280
Fax: (408) 955-0150
DC16IUPAT.org/unions/FloorCovers

Regional Offices
2020 Williams Street, Suite A1, San Leandro, CA 94577
Phone: (510) 454-8150
1939 Market Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (415) 625-0225

President: Dave Bradfield • **Financial Secretary:** Omar Larrea
Business Representatives: Anthony Nuanes, Steve Belong, Edgar Flores
Organizers: Ruffin Romes, Martin Garcia

Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month
at 6:30 p.m. at 2020 Williams Street in San Leandro.

Gone but not Forgotten — Rest in Peace, Jose



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

If you haven't heard yet, the STAR board of directors has made some changes to the eligibility rules for the STAR Awards event. These changes went into effect for all classes taken after July 1.

This will affect the 2025 event. Going forward, the changes are as follows:

Members must work a minimum of 1,000 hours per training year (July 1 through June 30) for a STAR-program-contributing employer.

Regarding walk-ins, when a member walks into a STAR class, the member will earn their certificate upon completion of the class but will not receive STAR credit toward the event.

Eligible members must have a 25-cents-per-hour contribution stipulated on their wage schedule to qualify for the STAR Awards event.

In 2025, the STAR Awards event will be a drive-through-type event during which all qualifying members have the ability to receive a prize.

In Memoriam: Jose Ramon Aguirre

It is with great sadness that I announce the death of Jose Ramon Aguirre. He passed away on June 17, 2024, at age 88.

Jose made application with Local 1288 on June 10, 1961, and put in 63 years of service. I met him in 1982 when I first started in the industry. I spent a lot of time with him and his son, Geraldo (Jerry) Aguirre, working with them and learning a lot through the '80s, in the late '90s, and into the early 2000s.

I always felt that Jose was a mentor, friend, brother, and father figure to me, and to many of us. As a seasoned mechanic, he shared his knowledge and expertise, generously granting insights and guiding younger members with patience and wisdom. I am a fortunate recipient of his knowledge.

One thing that always stood out to me about Jose is that he never cursed — well, OK, maybe a couple of times — and instead would encourage us to do better. If we weren't doing the right thing, like young people often don't, he would just give us a look that said, "I know what you're up to." That was enough to make us want to shape up.

I believe Jose has trained hundreds of floor coverers who are still in the field today. His knowledge of the trade will be passed down for generations to come. I will never forget the times I spent with him.

As we mourn the loss of this remarkable individual, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Jose's family, friends, and loved

ones. May they find peace in the knowledge that his spirit lives on through the impact he made in the lives of so many and the strength he brought to this union.

As always, I invite members with a special moment in their lives such as a birth, graduation,

marriage, retirement, or, sadly, a death to reach out to Steve, Edgar, or me to share a photo and a few words in a future article.

Respectfully,
Anthony Nuanes

PLASTERERS & CEMENT MASONS LOCAL 300



Main Office
4495 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588
Phone: (510) 430-9492
Fax: (510) 430-9183

Business Manager: Emilio Aldana
Senior Business Agent: Greg Levy

Business Agents: Miguel Duarte, Devin Evers, Chris Knerr,
Caleb Matheny, Walter Orellana, Avel Quiroz,
Israel R. Vargas, Marshall Vasquez

OPCMIALocal300.org



Local 300 cement mason Alex Rodriguez works with Granite Construction at the Charles Schulz Airport in Santa Rosa.



Local 300 cement masons work with Ghilotti Brothers Inc. in San Rafael.



Local 300 President Greg Levy swears in new Area 580 apprentice cement mason Joshua Berry.



Local 300 cement masons work with Greg Nelson Concrete in Rohnert Park.

BUSINESS MANAGER: CHRIS GREANEY
BUSINESS AGENTS: FORTINO CURIEL
MARK PLUBELL, ANTHONY VISCUSO
PRESIDENT: JOSHUA PEREIRA
VICE-PRESIDENT: SHANNON MCKINNEY
ORGANIZER: AURELIANO OCHOA

In Solidarity,
Fortino Curiel



Business Manager: PETER LANG
Financial Secretary: SALVADOR RICO
President: ABRAHAM ESTRELLA

In Solidarity,
Peter Lang



PHOTO CREDIT: AURELIANO OCHOA

PHOTOS COURTESY ALAN PIERCE AND FORTINO CURIELL

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& CONSUMER
CLASS ACTIONS

*THESE VERDICTS AND SETTLEMENTS ARE GIVEN AS EXAMPLES
AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO GUARANTEE ANY RESULT

BAC Local 3



Main Office
8201 Capwell Drive, Oakland, CA 94577
Phone: (510) 632-8781
BAC3-CA.org

President: Troy Garland
Secretary-Treasurer: Ryan Ruf
Field Representatives: Colin Johnson,
Lenny Paredes, Jordan Mondragon, David Calderon
Organizers: Dave Tafoya, Manny Enriquez, Wayne Jordan

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters,
On Friday, May 10, BAC Local 3 assisted the Painters and Allied Trades District Council 16 with a picket against Knights Flooring Inc. at Napa City College. We stood in solidarity to send the message that Knights Flooring is a dishonest contractor.

I'd like to thank the Local 3 members who attended this successful picket. I'd also like to thank DC 16 Organizer Martin Garcia, as well as the other DC 16 organizers, for the invitation. Turning our attention to the San Joaquin Valley, we have multiple projects that are



Napa Picket, left to right: BAC member Robert Villalobos; DC 16 apprentice Andy Del Rosario; DC 16's Jason "J.P." Anthony; BAC Local 3 staff members David Calderon, Manny Enriquez, and Dave Tafoya; and DC 16's Randell Newton, Martin Garcia, Ruffin Romes, and Ed Valencia

GLAZIERS Local 718



Main Office
1620-1622 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (415) 625-0225
Fax: (415) 553-5955
DC16IUPAT.org/unions/local-union-718

Business Representative: Nick King
President: Lenny Quintana

MEETINGS

General Membership
Tue., Aug. 13, 6 p.m.

Local 718 Glaziers On Strike
Throughout the Bay



Chapter Meetings

August 2024							September 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4	5	6	7	8	2	3							
11	12	13	14	15	9	10							
18	19	20	21	22	16	17							
25	26	27	28	29	23	24							
					30	31							

All chapter meetings in September are canceled!

First Tue., 6 p.m., Monterey — 1945 Natividad Rd., Salinas (The Pizza Factory)
First Thu., 5:30 p.m. Sacramento — 9840 Business Park Dr., Suite B (BAC 3 Sac Office)
Second Tue., 5 p.m., San Francisco — 379 Gellert Blvd., Daly City (Celia's)
Second Wed., 5:30 p.m., San Jose — 1535 Meridian Ave. (Rookies Sports Lodge)
Second Thu., 5 p.m., Oakland — 15301 Wicks Blvd., San Leandro (Marina Community Center)
Third Thu., 6 p.m., Manteca — 253 Spreckels Ave. (Round Table Pizza)
Third Tue., even months only, 6 p.m., Fresno — 324 E. Shaw Ave. (Ramada Inn)

putting Local 3 members to work. The River Islands High School project in Lathrop is a huge job that's bound to a project labor agreement. Our members have laid the block and installed the thin brick. Now, the tile scope is underway. Over in French Camp, Stoney Masonry is moving along at the San Joaquin County Jail, with bricklayers laying block. Meanwhile, in Stanislaus County, National Ceramic Tile and Stone is awaiting the start of the tile and stone scope for the New Modesto Courthouse. Finally, the Pacific Northwest will be hosting local BAC apprentices from the 13 states in our western region for the Western States Apprenticeship Contest.

The contest will take place in Seattle, with eight apprentices from Local 3 competing there. Members of our staff will take part in the contests as judges, including David Calderon (PCC), Manny Enriquez (brick), and me (tile). Best of luck to everyone!

In Solidarity,
Dave Tafoya

Service Awards, July
• 25 years: Matt Kirkes, Victor Paiz, Suad Selmanovic
• 40 years: William Cope
Congratulations on your many years of service.





Main Office
55 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
Phone: (415) 861-5752
IBEWLocal6.org

Business Manager/Financial Secretary:
John J. Doherty

President: Russell Au Yeung
Vice-President: Ron Lewis
Recording Secretary: John Langley
Treasurer: Brendan Greene

Executive Board Members:
Jennifer Kramer, Christie Peterson,
Michael O'Mahoney, Anthony Sandoval,
Douglas Wydler

MEETINGS
55 FILLMORE STREET

Unit One Committee Meeting
Tue., Aug. 6, 4:30 p.m.

Unit Five, Muni Railway Shop
Wed., Aug. 7, 4:30 p.m.

Unit Six, Sound & Communications
No meeting scheduled

Executive Board
Tue., Aug. 13, 4:30 p.m.

General Membership
Wed., Aug. 14, 4:30 p.m.

Retired Members (Senior Sixes)
Thu., Aug. 15, 10:45 a.m.

Executive Board
Wed., Aug. 28, 4:30 p.m.

In Memoriam

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of: David Cirelli, inside journeyman, who passed away on March 30, 2024; Herrito W. Hui, inside journeyman, who passed away March 19, 2024; Franz E. Glenn, inside journeyman, who passed away June 13, 2024; and Carl E. Lemon Jr., inside journeyman, who passed away on June 27, 2024. May they rest in peace.

Best Wishes to Our Recently Retired Members

Forrest A. Kessler III
Yong Cheng
James J. Nam

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Franz E. Glen, 1931–2024

We are sad to report that Brother Franz E. Glen, former business manager–financial secretary (BM–FS), has passed away at the age of 93.

Brother Glen joined the IBEW in 1951 and remained an active member for over 45 years. He served Local 6 in various capacities, including as a member of the executive board and as president, business representative, business manager, and trustee. He also served the International as the IBEW's delegate to the Metal Trades Department of the AFL–CIO, in addition to serving on the National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee and various committees at our International's conventions.

Glen was appointed to fill out the remainder of Bill Reedy's term of office as Local 6 BM–FS when Brother Reedy moved to work for the electrical industry and become a chair of the BART Board of Directors during the construction of the system in the late '60s and early '70s. Glen was elected and re-elected BM–FS by the Local 6 membership for another 10 terms. When he retired in 1999, Glen had served as BM–FS for over 31 years. That's nearly a third of our local's 104 years of existence.

Even in retirement, Glen served his local when called, testifying on behalf of the union in an arbitration hearing that secured

our one-up/one-down condition for new construction. I had the good fortune to meet with Glen after I took over as BM–FS, and I found his advice to be immensely helpful, as I would each time I sought him out.

To the end, Brother Franz Glen was a union brother and would always send along his best wishes to the sisters and brothers of IBEW Local 6.

May he rest in peace.

Bob Bourdet, 1942–2024

We are further saddened to report that Brother Bob Bourdet passed away at the age of 81.

Brother Bourdet started his apprenticeship in June 1961 and began teaching in September 1968. He retired from the industry in 2014. Over the years, Bourdet taught 1,229 apprentices, as well as 110 contractors and 762 students in estimating for SFECA beginning in 1980. He taught for the next 34 years.

The bottom line is that Bourdet basically taught three and possibly four generations in our industry. That's remarkable.

Bourdet's impacts on the local industry cannot be overstated. His decades-long commitment to the SF Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee and our business as a whole set a standard that few will match. We should look to emulate his achievements. He will be sorely missed and should not be forgotten.

We hope and pray that Brother Bob Bourdet will rest in peace, for he has certainly worked hard to earn it.

NEBF

The National Electrical Benefit Fund (NEBF) is a pension that's attached to our Inside Wiremen Agreement and our Sound and Communications Agreement. It's funded by the employers and managed by the International union and National NECA.

I note this as a reminder to all who have worked under the two aforementioned agreements because we've found that some members don't understand that this pension is in addition to the local pension plans with which we're more familiar.

If you've reached age 62, you may be eligible to begin drawing on that retirement benefit. Visit NEBF.com for more information. Once you've registered with the site, you can use the online system to: generate your NEBF benefit estimate, change your address, print an NEBF income verification letter, view plan documents online, opt in to receive plan communications electronically, and download an NEBF pension benefit application.

Local 6 Pride Contingent 2024

This year, Local 6 once again participated in the San Francisco Pride Parade. A group of Local 6 members marched with their loved ones and fellow members, some LGBTQ and some not, to show their pride in being part of the IBEW family.

This local has participated in the annual parade since 2017, and we're glad to see several other building trades contingents increasingly marching alongside us. We've welcomed our fellow members from surrounding regions' IBEW locals to march with our contingent.

Thanks goes out to all who were able to participate, especially those who helped to make it all possible. The EWMC are to be thanked for all their efforts in coordinating the contingent and decorating the Local 6 truck.

Be sure to check out the parade photos that accompany this column.

The Upcoming Presidential Election

This year, we have some very important decisions to make — just like we do every four years. One of these decisions includes our choice for president of the United States. The topic of the presidential race, especially this year, has provided fuel for many heated debates on the jobsite, at the coffee shop, and online.

Some in our ranks are going to back one candidate over the other no matter what the consequences might be. But it's worth thinking long and hard about a few things before you pull the lever for the MAGA movement.

As he always does, Trump is hitting you with a barrage of messages trying to convince you that the world's gone to hell in a handbasket and that only he can fix it. And, as usual, he's blaming anyone and everyone for this ill and that problem. He just sticks to his line and people buy it, facts be damned.

With Trump, all you can really expect is chaos and another round of tax cuts for the wealthy and powerful. Make no mistake: The working family has no future under Trump — not unless it's willing to work for less money and never dare ask for more. It'll be hard to pull yourself up by your bootstraps when you can't afford boots.

The IBEW has endorsed Joe Biden for president, and for good reason: He's delivered on his promises. He worked with the IBEW to craft massive investments in the electrical industry — investments that are intended to keep our country competitive and at the cutting edge. He possesses the experience and the temperament needed to lead this great country.

This isn't to say that the IBEW agrees with all of Biden's stances, of course, nor are we blind to his advanced age. But the IBEW has evaluated him on his record and found that he is absolutely the right man for the job when it comes to what matters to members like you who work in the electrical industry.

The IBEW believes that unlike Trump, Biden hears our voices and addresses our concerns. They believe, as do I, that Biden will listen to working families in need of relief from the rising costs of healthcare, a college education, and quality childcare.

I do not believe that Trump is capable of listening to our concerns, nor do I believe he

is prepared to address our needs. I didn't in 2016, and I don't today.

As many warned in 2016 — myself included — the election was not just about picking a president. The same goes for 2024: The implications of your vote will be wide-ranging and far-reaching. The president decides the makeup of the Supreme Court and plenty of lower courts, too. The decisions reached by the courts will affect us both as individuals at home and as trade unionists at work.

Many voters are concerned with only one issue, be it religious freedom, access to quality education and career opportunities, marriage equality, a woman's ability to govern her own medical decisions, workplace safety, or gun ownership. But to think that one of these issues is any more important than the other — or to think that any *one* issue is the only thing that matters — is downright foolish.

All of our rights matter, and they all affect our lives and those of our loved ones. But without our right to form a union and to collectively speak on the real issues that workers face, none of the other rights will stand.

We should all be extremely concerned with recent attacks on long-held court precedents, like the right to organize, reproductive freedom, and a government that works for all of us and not just wealthy corporations. All of the above have been thrown in the trash by the current Supreme Court, with its Trump-installed majority. Judicial precedent means nothing to the radical right, which seeks to silence your voice in the workplace, to make women second-class citizens, to deregulate industries to the detriment of our clean drinking water and our clear air to breathe, and to do even worse.

They've now decided that the president is above the law and can't be held accountable for anything he does — that he has civil and criminal immunity for any acts he might feel like taking, so long as those are "official acts." It's madness.

If you think you know what Trump and his cronies have in store for you, you're likely underestimating them. Search the Web for "Project 2025" and read the policy documents, which are an outline for a potential second Trump presidency. Project 2025's plans are brazen in their disregard for democratic principles and seek to consolidate power in the hands of a few corporate power brokers.

It's a dangerous blueprint for our future that will be used to pit working families against each other. What we'll get is a dictatorship and cronyism on steroids — at best — if not a complete and wholesale sellout of our country.

I said it a few years ago, and I will say it again: When they come after one of our rights today, they will come after all the rest of them tomorrow. We need a government led by people who will hear our voices and a judiciary that will defend our right to raise those voices. That's not the government we'll get with another Trump term.

Stay Safe, Save for a Rainy Day, and Come to a Union Meeting!
John J. Doherty

Local 6 at SF Pride 2024



ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL 8



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San Francisco, CA 94110
Phone: (415) 285-2900
Fax (415) 285-2020
IUEC8.org

Matt Russo
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Greg Hardeman
Business Representative/
Recording Secretary

Ryan Lange
Business Representative

Bill Chisholm
Business Representative

Nick Moore
Organizer

MEETINGS

San Francisco General Meeting
Wed., Aug. 14, 5:30 p.m. — *Date change due to International meeting*
690 Potrero Ave., San Francisco

Stockton
Fri., Aug. 2, 11:30 a.m.
Black Bear Diner
1703 Yosemite Ave., Manteca

Monterey/Watsonville
Mon., Aug. 5, 5:30 p.m.
Round Table Pizza
1975 Main St., Watsonville

San Luis Obispo
Tue., Aug. 6, 11:30 a.m.
Firestone Grill
1001 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo

Sacramento
Wed., Aug. 7, 5:30 p.m.
Sheet Metal Workers Apprentice & Journeyman Training Building
3665 Bleckely St., Mather

Bakersfield
Canceled due to general meeting date change

Fresno
Canceled due to general meeting date change

Tahoe
Thu., Aug. 29, 11:30 a.m.
Mott Canyon Tavern & Grill
259 Kingsbury Grade Rd., Stateline, NV

Reno
Thu., Aug. 29, 5:30 p.m.
Northern Nevada Labor Temple
1819 Hymer Ave., Sparks, NV

Special Called Meeting Items for July

- Swearing-in of newly elected officers for the annual election
- Approval of Local 8's annual budget, 2024-'25
- IUEC Charity Golf Outing, silver sponsorship of \$5,000 benefiting Toybox children's charity
- Move Local 8's August general meeting date up a week to Wed., Aug. 14

Unless We Stand Up, Stand Together, and Start Thinking Long-Term, Prefab Will Eat Us Alive

This is the month in which I shall bore you all with a column spouting off about prefab violations. For those of you who are in service and don't feel like this applies to you, don't worry — we'll get to you.

When it comes to prefabricated elements showing up on the jobsite, I've heard every excuse in the book from the employers.

"It's easier to ship that way."

"We don't order it that way. It just shows up that way."

"We have no control over our manufacturing process — they do this all over the world, and it's not a problem anywhere else."

We, as the IUEC, are not the only party to the collective bargaining agreement (CBA); the word "agreement" part alludes to that fact. Companies that are signatory to the CBA have also agreed to it, obviously, and so they're required to abide by the terms they signed onto. That means that it's *their* responsibility to meet the CBA's requirements.

If companies don't meet their requirements, we have a couple of means of recourse. Firstly, we can file a grievance. You can call an agent out to the jobsite, and we can argue over the details. The company will then pay a fine for what we agree is the time that it should have taken elevator constructors in the field to complete the tasks that were performed by non-union workers or machines in the factory.

Now, the companies have become more skillful in circumventing our penalties, changing words and making it harder for us to go after things like blocking beams, for instance, by considering them part of the motor assembly.

But, y'know... It's not their fault, right? After all, it comes from the manufacturer that way, and that's what the manufacturer calls it, not the signatory company.

Like I said, we have choices here. We can grieve and extract some amount of money from the company that never quite seems to correspond to the actual amount of time it would've taken for the work to have been done in the field by on-site crews, as it should have been.

We could also choose to look the other way, keep losing skills, and keep losing ground to

factory prefabrication. We could simply give up.

Or we could make the choice to stand up for ourselves.

But that sounds hard! Standing up for ourselves puts us on the boss' radar. Disassembling something, writing it down in your JHA, taking pictures, and sending it to the agents and other field members who are installing the same equipment puts a target on your back, and who would want to jeopardize their job? I mean, if nobody else is doing it, why should you? Why should you be the first person to call something out and risk your livelihood?

It doesn't seem fair. I mean, you should probably sit back and let someone else be the tattletale, right?

Wrong. That attitude is a race to the bottom.

Looking the other way when you know there's a violation doesn't make you a good elevator constructor. It makes you replaceable. It deskills our workforce and devalues our expertise. It destabilizes our CBA. It empowers the companies over us when we go to the bargaining table.

While seeing something but saying nothing might make things easier for you in the moment, it hurts everyone long-term. We must be willing to look beyond what's right in front of our noses and focus on what happens after this install, this job, this year.

Our companies certainly do that. That's why they're prefabricating so many elements. The more often we look the other way, the more prefabbing they'll try to get away with. The more prefabbing they get away with, the easier it will be for them to argue during negotiations that "elevator constructors don't do that work in the field anymore anyhow, so why should we keep it in the agreement?"

Our power doesn't come from the CBA. It doesn't result from a grievance or descend

from the business agents.

Our power is in our membership. Our power lies with each and every one of you standing together collectively, as the first word in CBA states.

We can put a halt to prefab if we act collectively rather than stand by separately and give our work away bit by bit. This isn't just a new construction adjustment or modernization issue. It's more serious than that. It's a real problem, and it's all of ours to deal with — or not deal with.

I say we deal with it.

So, where to start?

If you're a service mechanic and you know a mod is occurring in one of your buildings, don't disappear for the next two years. Go learn, teach, and support your sisters and brothers. Hold them accountable if that's what needs to happen.

If you see replacement motors or parts that need to be disassembled, don't simply assume the mod mechanic knows that. Walk the job with them. Make sure they're aware what prefab looks like. Help teach them about the older equipment that they're removing. Pass on the institutional knowledge.

That was always one of my favorite parts of a mod, albeit the most difficult: learning the old systems enough to keep them running while we were preparing to remove them.

As a service mechanic, you have to be part of the solution. Be an asset to your fellow union members by teaching and assisting them — and always remain open to learning yourself.

Always remember: Together, we bargain, and divided, we beg. Until next time, I'll see you all on the jobsite.

*In Solidarity,
Matt Russo*

SIGN & DISPLAY LOCAL 510



Main Office
400 Talbert Street, Daly City, CA 94014
Phone: (650) 763-5405, x1112
Fax: (650) 871-8406
Local510.org

Business Agents: Annette Dosier, Morgan Worth
Field Representative: Peter Forni

Office Hours:
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Upcoming Work Schedule

Show	Venue	Company	Move-in	Show Dates	Size
August					
Union Meeting: Thu., Aug. 1, 6 p.m.					
55 Fillmore St., San Francisco					
Flash	SCCC	Tricord	8/2-5	8/6-7	50
Walmart	Moscone S	FDC	8/23	8/27-28	Special
SaaStr	San Mateo EC	FDC	8/24	9/10-12	Special
ADAS	SJCC	GES	8/26	8/28-29	Special
Sept					
Dreamforce	Moscone N, S, W	FDC	9/9	9/17-19	Full
Intel	SJCC	T3/Emplayco	9/19	9/24-27	Special
Samsung	SJCC	TBD	9/30	10/3-4	Special

If you can't show up as scheduled, call your employer.

Freeman: 650-878-6008 GES: 650-741-7500

All dates are tentative and subject to change. This schedule is updated from time to time as new information becomes available. Check local510.org for the most up-to-date show and training schedule information.

SPRINKLER FITTERS LOCAL 483



Main Office:
2525 Barrington Court, Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 785-8483
Fax: (510) 785-8508
SprinklerFitters483.org

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Jeff Dixon
Business Agents: Dan Torres, Dylan Boldt, and John Medina
Market Development Representative: Rik Drury
Organizer: Danny Mangan

Meetings are held on
the fourth Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

Official Minutes of the San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council

Over a Century of Excellence in Craftsmanship



DELEGATES MEETING

June 6, 6 p.m.
55 Fillmore St.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

The regular order of business was suspended to conduct COPE interviews of candidates for Mayor at 5-6 p.m. and again from 7-7:45 p.m. The regular meeting was called to order at approximately 6 p.m.

All officers and trustees were present except for Brother Dan Torres (UA 483) who was excused for a contract ratification meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REQUEST FOR FUNDS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5/16/24 Minutes, M/S/C

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

• 700 Indiana St.

- Black Hyperlocal Building Trades Collective Meeting
- ST thanked Organized Labor Photographer George Verlaine
- Agency coordination to move entitled projects faster
- Prop I exemption for projects

PICKET SANCTIONS

- Brother Pete Lang (R&W 40) requested Sanction against Manuel Santiago, III. M/S/C

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- COPE Convention (In-Person) on June 20, 2024, at 5 p.m. in Local 6 Hall. M/S/C

REPORTS OF UNIONS

- Brother Lang (R&W 40) reported on master contract negotiations starting.
- Brother Lavery (IUOE3) reported on a white ballot for officer elections.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the body, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Kim Thompson (IFPTE 21) and Ed Lieberman at approximately 6:44 p.m.

Building the Trades

continued from page 2

adults often struggle to recognize among ourselves. Having never met before, the children of both families connected right away on their shared interests: Roblox, fishing, swimming, watching baseball, and so on.

It got me to thinking: What if we took a bit more childlike of an approach to life, like these kids? What if we sought out what we had in common rather than fixating on our camps, cliques, and caucuses and how they put us at odds with our neighbor?

In any case, what did my Missouri experience amount to that would be most relevant to all of you? I suppose it would be the profound reminder that no matter how fractious things seem right now politically and socially, we still truly do have it better here in the United States than most anywhere else. That's because as working people — which, of course, the vast majority of us are — we still have far more in common than not, and we always will.

Knowing that, I think we'd be well-served to challenge ourselves during this politically divided era to work as hard as possible to be patient with one another and focus on our similarities rather than our ultimately petty differences. If we work on tightening the ties that bind us, we're likely to emerge much more quickly from this dark modern era in our nation's history.

Glaziers' Strike

San Francisco's Glaziers Local 718 — along with the rest of the NorCal glaziers of DC 16 IUPAT — took to the streets on Monday, July 1, after members overwhelmingly rejected management's last "best and final" offer.

My bulldog, Oliver, and I hit the picket

line to see how things were going. So far, the members are holding pickets at shops and not construction sites. This allows them to withhold shop labor and impact the point of production without asking you to take a walk with them.

It's a strategic move that we might take for granted. I went down to the lines to join them, and let me tell you: The glaziers have been holding their own. They possess a strong vision of a fair contract, militancy among the ranks, and union leadership that's capable and clear-eyed about these negotiations.

The threat of future actions even brought a \$300 million job under a PLA in record time, thus making the glaziers' strike a success for all trades.

Let's rally with them and boost their lines when we are able. If you want to support them, you can also boost their message on social media. One day longer, one day stronger.

Turn to page 12 and check out Local 718's section to see some great strike photos.

Working Toward More Work

The first half of July has been a busy time for this council's board of business representatives. Many of the board's members have answered the council's calls to action and testified before regulatory bodies at San Francisco City Hall.

The outcomes? All positive! Your reps have helped move multiple items forward in various committees, as well as pushing forward legislation that would reduce the transfer tax on union-built, pension-funded residential projects.

Read more about this smart legislation, co-sponsored by Ahsha Safai and Connie Chan, in this month's cover article.

See you next month in the Labor Day special edition of *Organized Labor*. **OL**

**Affiliates: Your content deadline
for next month's paper is Aug. 7.**



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