



OPEIU LOCAL #9

Newsletter



For Bulletin Board Posting

FEBRUARY 2013

Candy Johnson, President - local9candy@sbcglobal.net

Dawn Martin, Business Manager - local9dawn@sbcglobal.net

414-771-9730, 1-800-870-9499, FAX: 414-771-9732

PLEASE NOTE MEETING LOCATION

**General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2013
5:00 p.m.**

**Illinois Nurses Association
105 West Adams, Suite 1420
Chicago, IL
(Enter at 212 S. Clarke Street
revolving doors)**

February Meeting

Please note that the February meeting is one of our meetings that is held in Illinois. The meeting will be in the conference room of the Illinois Nurses Association, 105 West Adams, Suite 1420 (enter via the revolving doors at 212 S. Clarke Street). Light refreshments will be served at the meeting.

Upcoming Elections:

Local 9 Elections

Nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, three Trustees and six Executive Board members will take place at the regular membership meeting on April 16, 2013.

No person shall be elected or appointed to an office of this Union unless she/he has been a member of this Union in continuous good standing for at least the preceding twelve months prior to the election or appointment. If there is but one candidate for each office the election shall be dispensed with. Any

candidate that is unopposed shall be declared the winner and their name shall not be placed on the ballot. In the event there are positions with more than one person nominated per position there will be a mail-ballot election, in May, per the Constitution.

OPEIU Convention Delegates

The OPEIU 26th Convention will be held June 3-6, 2013 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront, San Diego, CA. The Executive Board has determined that the Local will send two delegates to the convention. The President is automatically one of our delegates per the Constitution. This means that one delegate position will be filled at the April 16th membership meeting. The nominations and election will occur at the April meeting. In order to be eligible to be considered for a delegate position you must have been a member in good standing for one year.

Chicago Federation of Labor Delegate Positions Available

Local 9 is entitled to 5 delegate positions to the Chicago Federation of Labor. Anyone wishing to serve as a delegate to the CFL should contact Candy Johnson to inform her. In the event there are more volunteers than positions open, there will be an election.

Remember Your Weingarten Rights

It is vitally important that you not forget that if you are called into a meeting with your employer or their representative for a conversation that could lead to discipline or termination you need to exercise your Weingarten Rights.

1. You must ask for union representation before or during the interview. Management does not have to tell you of this right.

2. Once you inform them of your desire for representation you do not have to answer any questions until representation is present. Stay quiet.
3. Don't make any written or verbal statement of guilt or innocence. You cannot be forced to make a statement. The best response is NO response.
4. Do not waive your right to representation. If you begin the questioning without representation you have waived your rights and statements can be used against you.

JB Moss VOTE Fund Program

The International has a long-established political action fund called the JB Moss VOTE (Voice of the Electorate) Fund. This fund is used to support candidates that are not only endorsed by our International, but also used in key races where funds are requested by Locals across the country.

The only way that monies are placed into the VOTE fund is through voluntary donations. The International is asking for all OPEIU members to consider signing up for routine payroll deductions into the VOTE fund or to make separate voluntary contributions to the Fund. It is a top priority of the International to get more members participating in this Fund. Every dollar contributed to the Fund is used to elect candidates who support working families. For contribution forms, please contact the Local office.

NLRB Upholds Firing of Worker Over Facebook Post

In its first decision involving social media, the National Labor Relations Board ruled in favor of an employer who fired a worker for posting pictures of a company car involved in an accident along with comments on Facebook.

The termination was upheld by the NLRB based on a Facebook posting by a car dealership employee who posted photos of a Land Rover crashed into a pond by a customer's 13 year old son. The salesman wrote

sarcastic comments about the child and the cost of the vehicle. The judge ruled that this was sole reason for termination and the NLRB agreed that the post was not "protected concerted activity."

This ruling makes it clear that one should always assume that any negative posts will get back to your employer and depending on the nature of the post; you could be disciplined up to and including termination. It is important to think before posting.

AT&T Mobility Only Union Carrier for Cell Phones

Now more than ever we need to stand together, support good jobs and support union companies that respect worker's rights. AT&T Mobility is one of those companies. AT&T is the one and only national unionized wireless provider with 45,000 workers represented by the Communications Workers of America. This makes AT&T the clear choice for union families and union offices. In an effort to ensure that AT&T was the union choice, CWA worked with the AT&T, the AFL-CIO and Union Plus to provide discounted wireless service for union offices, union staff and union members.

You need to be aware that CREDO Mobile, which claims to be a progressive choice, Verizon Wireless and Sprint all continue to aggressively oppose union organizing efforts by their employees.

If you care about unions and worker's rights then AT&T Mobility is the only choice for wireless. To learn about savings on services contact Union Plus at 1-800-472-2005.

As always, if you have any problems do not hesitate to call or email the office.

/gb,dalu 24111, afl-cio