



# LOCAL 1010

7047 Grand Ave. Hammond, IN 46323

219.937.7784

219.937.7684 (Fax)

web usw1010.org

**Don Seifert** - President

**James Thomas** - Vice President

**Jayson Culp** - Recording Secretary

**Rosa Maria Rodriguez** - Financial Secretary

**Andres Maldonado** - Treasurer

**Rhonda Hawkins** - Guide

**Jim Gogolak** - Inner Guard

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To Local 1010 Members:

March 5th, 2021

Sisters and Brothers,

Last night, for the first time in months we were able to hold a Union Meeting. Although we retained social distancing and the wearing of masks inside the main hall, it felt like the returning of normalcy. I don't recommend everyone discarding all their safety habits we have become accustomed to over the last year but it felt like a step in the right direction.

As everyone should be aware of by now, Union Elections are April 1<sup>st</sup>, nominations take place next week Monday – Thursday 7am-4pm, at Local 1010. See the Recording Secretary.

Note: If you nominate someone other than yourself, you need their Name, Check #, Area, Department, Shift regularly worked, and Address.

Today we were notified that there is no Profit Sharing for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2020.

## USW Call to Action

Call your legislators offices! Ask them where they stand on the PRO Act and either thank them or ask them for their support. To call your Representative dial **866-202-5409**. To call your Senators dial **877-607-0785**, make sure to call twice.

## Tell the Senate to Pass the COVID Relief Package

We continue to do our part to end this pandemic; Senators must do theirs and pass this bill.

### The COVID Relief Package will:

- Provide direct payments of up to \$1,400 to Americans who need it the most.
- Extend COBRA coverage for uninsured workers with an 85 percent subsidy, many of which are our Steelworker siblings.
- Extend Unemployment Insurance benefits for up to 48 weeks and increase the minimum weekly benefit to \$400.
- Grant \$150 million for COVID-19 worker protections, with \$75 million dedicated to OSHA enforcement in high-risk sectors. This has been a USW priority since the pandemic began.
- Directly benefit the 10,000 members at USW Local 8888, who build ships for our military, and others who qualify for the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act by giving presumption that COVID-19 is work-related. This presumption will authorize eligibility for medical benefits, lost wages, and survivor benefits.
- Provides for \$130 billion to help schools. This funding will allow recommended steps by the CDC to go forward that will ensure students, educators, and employees can return to the classroom safely.
- Provide \$200 million for infection control support for the skilled nursing facilities where many USW members work.

Also included in the package is the "Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021." It will protect the pensions of 120,000 active USW members and retirees by ensuring they are fully funded for at least 30 years. It would also allow healthy plans to better account for the pandemic and help to ensure their solvency for the future. Protecting our

pensions has been a Steelworker priority for years, and Butch Lewis is necessary to help the thousands of workers (including many paperworkers) in these plans.

**Here is how you can help:**

Call your Senators at **877-607-0785**, tell them who you are, where you are from, and that you are counting on them to Pass the COVID Relief Package.

ATTENTION FAMILY MEMBERS OF POTENTIAL NEW HIRES: Recently we had a rash of new hires that signed up for the CDHP – Consumer Driven Healthcare Plan. The union recommends if you know of someone who is selected as an employee and goes through the “On-Boarding” process to select the **PPO plan**. Should you have any questions during the On-boarding process related to insurance, please contact the Local at 219-937-7784 ext.112 or 117 for directions on any insurance needs.

Currently, the six month penalty has been waived for the Ramsey Test. If you have taken the MTM/MTE test and need to retest, call now. Please call Amy Imbesi at 219-399-4760.

**WEEKLY REMINDER:** Call PIVOT to report positive COVID cases. The PIVOT number is **(916) 382-8770**.

**If you have any COVID related issues please contact your** Department Safety/Grievance Representatives for resolution. If those issues cannot be solved at the department level, please contact the Local 1010 Safety Committee. All contacts are at this link <http://usw1010.org/safetydirectory.html>.

UMR has seen an increased rate of **fraud and scams** related to the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Please be aware of fraud: If someone calls, texts, or emails you or a family member promising access to the vaccine for a fee, you should not share your personal or financial information.

- No one should ask you to pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- No one should ask you to pay to get early access to a vaccine.

You can report suspected fraud by calling the UMR Fraud line toll-free at 1-800-356-5803.

Local 1010 Essay award contest. Secure an application form along with procedure and instructions beginning February 22, 2021 through March 12, 2021 at Local 1010 Memorial Hall.

ICD/ Joblink awards the “Tino Fulimani” Scholarships on an annual basis Apply online at [www.icdlearning.org](http://www.icdlearning.org)

In Solidarity,

Don Seifert