

JUNE 23, 2010

UNION UPDATE



State workers to gather at the Capitol on June 30

Thousands of Local 1000 members will gather on the west steps of the Capitol on June 30 to show elected officials the value of state workers and the work we do.

The theme of the lunchtime rally is “We are California” – as we not only provide vital services for all Californians but we are active members of our communities. The event also focuses on Local 1000’s call for a balanced budget solution – not one that focuses solely on cutting valuable services and punishing state workers.

Local 1000 wants state workers to tell their stories and talk about the importance of the work we do to make California healthy, safe and strong.

“We are here standing up for state services and California. We live here, we work here; not only do we provide the valuable services Californians need, we’re the human face of services Californians rely upon.”

— Yvonne Walker
Local 1000 President

On June 28, Local 1000 will resume contract negotiations with the governor’s representatives.

“We’re ready to bargain over any issue that makes sense for California,” Walker said. “However, we’re not going to agree to a contract at any cost. We want a contract that provides stability for our members.”



We are California

**Wednesday, June 30
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

West steps of the state Capitol
1315 10th St., Sacramento

Virtual rally

If you cannot be at the rally in person, you can still have your presence felt in Sacramento!


Submit your photo

Go to seiu1000.org/rally.php and download the “I am California” sign. Print your sign and fill in the blank with why *your* job is important to the state.

Take a picture of yourself with the sign and upload it to the photos area at facebook.com/seiu1000 or e-mail to communications@seiu1000.org

Send a message

Tell us why *your* job is vital to the people of California. Email us at communications@seiu1000.org

 **We’ll share your photos and messages on the big screen at the rally!**

Resource Center

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
866.471.SEIU (7348)

Website

seiu1000.org

Connect with Local 1000

Facebook

facebook.com/seiu1000

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YOUR QUESTIONS
ANSWERED

The following is a list of this week's top questions members have asked the Local 1000 Resource Center staff.

Q Where can I find the minimum wage resources mentioned in President Walker's letter to members?

The minimum wage resources will be on the Local 1000 website if the governor cuts our pay to minimum wage.

Q I hear Local 1000 is planning a Capitol rally – what is it about?

Thousands of Local 1000 members are expected at the Capitol on June 30 to impress on legislators the value of state services and the employees who provide those services, to call for a balanced solution to the state's budget crisis and support our bargaining team. **For more information, read the front page of this newsletter, or go to seiu1000.org**

Q Can I request a part-time schedule to accommodate my school schedule?

You may request a schedule change. However, a change from full-time to part-time is at management discretion.

Q How long do I have to work for the state to qualify for Family Medical Leave (FMLA)?

Federal law says that employees qualify for FMLA when they have worked for an employer for at least 12 months and have at least 1,250 hours of service during the 12-month period immediately preceding the start of the leave. **Read Article 8.16 of our contract for more information on FMLA.**

Q If I am using FMLA leave, will this time still count for seniority with state service?

Yes. Employees on paid FMLA leave will accrue seniority credit. **Read DPA rules 599.608 and 599.609 for more information.**

Appeals court backs ending furloughs for SCIF workers

Judges reject gov's bid to justify illicit furloughs

The 1st District Court of Appeal upheld a superior court judge's order that rescinded furloughs at the State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF) last year and awarded back pay to workers there.

In a scathing decision, the three-judge panel rejected Gov. Schwarzenegger's effort to overturn the trial court's earlier judgment. The appellate judges wrote that many of the governor's justifications for SCIF furloughs did not make sense in light of the state insurance code and referred to the governor's argument against awarding back pay as "preposterous."

Last year, San Francisco Superior Court Judge Charlotte Woolard agreed with Local 1000 attorneys and ruled that furloughing SCIF employees violated the state insurance code. She ordered an end to furloughs and awarded back pay, which most SCIF employees have received.



The governor's private attorneys appealed Woolard's ruling, claiming that furloughs were not a change in staffing levels and therefore legal. The governor's attorneys also said the order for back pay was improper and each SCIF employee should be required to individually prove the level of harm caused to them.

"It seems preposterous to require the court to hear from every single one of the more than 5,800 State Fund employees represented by SEIU in this action," the panel wrote.

During a May 28 hearing, Justice Anthony Kline said "it didn't seem to make sense" to reduce employee hours if the money saved was not being used to help with the General Fund deficit.

This case is one of six pending SEIU Local 1000 legal challenges to furloughs. Along with three other furlough challenges, this case will be reviewed by the state Supreme Court.

"This victory is important because the Supreme Court will now see that two separate superior court judges and two appellate panels have ruled against the governor on furloughs," said Local 1000 attorney Felix De La Torre.