

# Governor snubs state workers

*Schwarzenegger refuses to back contract bill or explain his broken promise*



September 1, 2009 VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

YVONNE R. WALKER  
President

M. CORA OKUMURA  
Vice President  
and Secretary-Treasurer

JIM HARD  
Vice President  
for Organizing/Representation

KATHLEEN B. COLLINS  
Vice President for Bargaining

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

As you know, Labor Day is the unofficial end of summer, but more importantly, it is a national celebration of the dignity of work, a tribute to the development of our country, and a dedication to the social and economic achievements of American workers.

This Labor Day weekend, more than 600 SEIU Local 1000 members of our nine bargaining units—your employees—will be in Los Angeles to discuss the services we provide to California and the many issues affecting our well-being, including our contract.

You know that the contract we negotiated together could save the state \$340 million and that we have identified another \$2 billion in labor related savings—so the cost of our contract should not be an issue.

I am taking this opportunity to ask that you join us at any time over the Labor Day weekend, and either put your name to the agreement we shook hands on and work with Republicans for legislative ratification, or tell us why you are walking away from the deal we reached in good faith.

Sincerely,

YVONNE R. WALKER  
President

**Gov. Schwarzenegger ignored our letter and turned down this invitation to meet with more than 600 Local 1000 members over Labor Day weekend. He has refused to rally Republican support for our contract bill in the Legislature or explain why he has walked away from the agreement he negotiated.**

## **WATCH FOR THIS ENVELOPE** **Ballots were mailed** **Sept. 4**

A key seat on the governing board of CalPERS – our pension system – is up for election. Ballots were mailed to our homes last week. Look for a large envelope from CalPERS with blue and red printing. Inside you will find a ballot and a candidate statement booklet. Local 1000 has endorsed Cathy Hackett. She has spent the past 30 years defending employee benefits and workers rights.



## **VOTE for Cathy Hackett**

## **Layoffs cut in 30 departments**

Working with numerous state agencies and departments, Local 1000 has successfully mitigated layoffs in three more departments, bringing the total to 30 departments where workers with layoff notices will stay on the job.

Local 1000 is still pressing three departments to mitigate, cancel or reduce layoffs – the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).

The departments that have canceled layoffs are Fair Employment and Housing, the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board and the California Museum of Science and Industry. To date, nearly 500 Local 1000-represented employees have had their layoffs canceled. Layoffs are being avoided through a combination of transfers to other departments, mitigation through the use of vacancies, and a small number of resignations, retirements and demotions in-lieu-of-layoff.

"I'm pleased management heard our concerns and canceled the layoffs," said Felipe Rosas, a custodian at the California Museum of Science and Industry in Los Angeles and Local 1000 steward. "Frankly, if the cuts had gone through, we wouldn't have had the staff to maintain sanitary rest rooms for the thousands of visitors, many of them children, who come to the museum every year."

## **Judge nixes furloughs** **for 6,260 SCIF workers**

***Final ruling expected to take effect on Sept. 10***

More than 6,000 State Fund (SCIF) employees will be exempt from furloughs following a court victory by Local 1000.

San Francisco Superior Court Judge Charlotte Walter Woolard agreed with Local 1000 attorneys and on Sept. 1 declared the furloughs of SCIF employees illegal. Woolard is scheduled to issue her final ruling Sept. 10. She is expected to stop furloughs for SCIF employees and may order back pay plus interest for members who lost money as a result of the furloughs. The governor's attorneys are expected to appeal the ruling.

The writ of mandate filed by Local 1000 forces Gov. Schwarzenegger to follow a California Insurance Code statute that specifically exempts SCIF employees from furloughs.

"This is another crack in the governor's illegal furlough scheme," said Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker. "We will continue our litigation in all possible venues."

## **Statewide grievance filed** **to ensure all paid holidays**

***2006 contract holiday provisions still in effect***

Local 1000 has filed a grievance on behalf of all 95,000 state employees it represents and is threatening legal action if the Schwarzenegger Administration fails to honor our current contract and enforce Lincoln's Birthday and Columbus Day as paid days off.

In February, Local 1000 agreed to exchange the two holidays for two additional personal days off under the tentative agreement we signed with state negotiators. But because our 2009 contract bill remains pending before the Legislature, the contract signed in 2006 remains in effect. Under the 2006 contract, Lincoln's Birthday and Columbus Day remain state holidays.

Many agencies have refused to recognize the two holidays as paid days off. If your department or your boss refuses to recognize Monday, Oct. 12 as the Columbus Day holiday, contact the Local 1000 Union Resource Center at any of the numbers at the bottom of this page.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL LOCAL 1000 TOLL FREE: **(866) 471-SEIU (7348)** or visit our website: **www.seiu1000.org**

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