

JUNE 13
2012

UNION UPDATE

LOCAL 1000
SEIU
Stronger Together



Calif. primary campaign yields success

Members mobilize throughout state for candidates, June races a prelude to tough November election fights

In a show of force, Local 1000 members worked all over the state to successfully elect candidates on June 5 who are friendly to working families and support state services.

Our work in the June primary election is only a prelude to the effort we will need to put forth in order to succeed in November when dozens of state legislative seats will be decided along with crucial ballot initiatives.

"This primary was really the first step to what will be a hard-fought election this fall," said Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker. "Our strong efforts in June have put us in a better position for November, but our most difficult work is ahead."

Two initiatives on the November ballot directly affect Local 1000 members and their families. If Gov. Jerry Brown's revenue measure does not pass, there will be even greater cuts to vital state programs and K-12 education. Another initiative would cripple the ability of state workers to organize politically while giving special exemptions that



Local 1000 members Sophia Perkins and Dan Silva walk precincts with Assemblymember Richard Pan (center) on Election Day. Below: Members make phone calls on behalf of candidates.



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—Yvonne R. Walker
President, Local 1000

allow wealthy big business interests to spend unlimited amounts of money in state election campaigns.

Before the June election, 530 Local 1000 members and staff performed 1,561 phone bank shifts, making 64,000 calls. More than 205 members and staff performed more than 400 precinct walking shifts to visit voters in their homes.

Our efforts paid off. 56 of 59 legislative candidates endorsed by SEIU placed in the top two finishers. Under California's new open primary system, that will guarantee those candidates a place on the November ballot. Those victories include 10 of 11 competitive races that we targeted.

"Elections matter to all state employees," said Blayne Thalken, a Department of Justice employee who walked precincts on June 2. "If we exercise our political strength, we can elect leaders who will listen to us instead of using state workers as political footballs."

For the most recent bargaining news and information go to
www.seiu1000.org

Union Resource Center wins back pay issue for member

Others may be affected by CDCR's tardy efforts to resolve back pay issues

In a case that may affect many members of the state's largest department, Local 1000 won a back pay issue for a prison employee in Vacaville worth \$859.

As a result of a grievance filed by a Union Resource Center representative, the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) overturned a flawed effort by the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR) to collect on an alleged over-payment from 2007 – in violation of California Government Code. (Under the Government Code, if the state realizes that an employee was over-paid, the recovery process must begin within three years of the over-payment.)

The case involves Jeanette Vellos, an associate governmental program analyst for CDCR in Vacaville. The state paid Vellos a salary advance for the February 2007 pay period but the state failed to reduce her regular check. The state later deducted

some money from her paycheck and Vellos believed the matter was resolved years ago.

After CDCR ordered her to repay an additional \$859 last year, Vellos filed a grievance in December. The grievance was rejected at the first level by CDCR management at California Medical Facility in Vacaville, the prison where Vellos works.

DPA agrees with union rep

Vellos' union representative Joyce Thomas-Villaronga then appealed the case to the second level, CDCR management in Sacramento, which did not respond for several months. Thomas-Villaronga then pressed the case to the third level – DPA, where Assistant Deputy Director of Labor Relations Pam Manwiller agreed with Local 1000.

In a May 7 written decision, Manwiller granted the grievance, which requires CDCR to stop trying to collect on the 2007 pay dispute.

Local 1000 representatives have seen other recent cases where CDCR is working to fix years of faulty bookkeeping by trying to illegally collect alleged over-payments from more than three years ago.

"The importance of this case is that members need to know what their rights are," said Thomas-Villaronga. "I know there are other people out there with the same problem – CDCR is trying to collect an over-payment from more than three years ago. I have three other pending cases similar to this one, including one where CDCR claims this member owes money from 2001."

If you believe your department is trying to improperly collect back pay from you, contact the Member Resource Center at **866.471.SEIU (7348)**.

UNION INFORMATION

Resource Center

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

Website

seiu1000.org

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PDD and PLP Days – Time to use them

→ JUNE 30 DEADLINE: Time is running out to use the PDD days we earned during this fiscal year

Professional Development Days

All employees accumulate two Professional Development Days during each fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), and those days must be used during that same fiscal year. **PPD days are to be used at the employee's discretion, and management may not request any documentation.**

Personal Leave Program Days

Local 1000-represented employees earned eight hours of Personal Leave Program (PLP) credit each month during Nov. 1, 2010 - Oct. 31, 2011. The accrued days must be used by June 30, 2013 and at the employee's discretion. There is specific language governing PLP for Unit 3 employees.



If you have problems regarding scheduling PDD or PLP time, call **866.471.SEIU (7348)**

For more information, visit Local 1000's website at **seiu1000.me/JGjnpf**