



# THE DISPATCHER

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## CALL TO THE 39TH CONVENTION



JUNE 17-21, 2024  
VANCOUVER, B.C.

HONOR THE PAST, INVEST IN OUR FUTURE





## President's Message

### Settlement of decades-long ICTSI lawsuit allows the ILWU to move forward and focus on our future and this union's important work

**M**y last President's message in the September 2023 *Dispatcher* was written during a time of uncertainty.

In that message, I explained why the ILWU had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on September 30, 2023. I now write this President's message to share that the ILWU's bankruptcy filing and the decade-long litigation with ICTSI Oregon have been resolved. On February 1st, the ILWU

several days of mediation overseen by a federal bankruptcy judge and includes a mutual broad release of all claims and disputes among the parties, including the claims in the ICTSI lawsuit, and payment of \$20.5 million to ICTSI. While \$20.5 million settlement is a bitter and expensive pill to swallow that erases two decades of financial reserves, we all can now move forward and focus on our future and this union's important work.

The Titled Officers and the

this adversity with strength and unity. I would expect nothing less from this great membership. As I said in my September 2023 President's message, this group of Officers and our membership can handle this kind of trouble. Indeed, we have handled this much trouble, we have resolved this trouble, and our union is now on the best possible path forward.

I want to thank all of those who have supported the ILWU and those who worked so hard to get us through this. Thank you to the Titled Officers, ILWU Coast Longshore Division Officers, ILWU locals and affiliates, and ILWU membership for your unwavering support and dedication to this union. A special thank you and acknowledgment must go the ILWU Local 142 membership, the Local 142 Officers and Executive Board, and the Hawaii Longshore Division for stepping up and once again showing us what true solidarity means through their admirable actions.

I just returned from the National Conference of the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) in Adelaide where MUA National Secretary Paddy Crumlin presented our delegation with a check for AUD \$500,000 as a contribution towards the ILWU's settlement costs. The MUA membership—dockers and maritime workers on the other side of the world who were not involved in the dispute with ICTSI showed us that they had our back even though this battle did not belong to them. Their actions, not their words showed us that we do not walk alone.

The ILWU will be heading into the 2024 ILWU Convention June 17-21 in Vancouver, Canada



***"These past few months have been difficult for the officers, our locals, and the rank and file. During this time, the resolve and determination of the membership never wavered. You responded to this adversity with strength and unity. I would expect nothing less from this great membership."***

announced that it, along with the ILWU Coast Longshore Division, had reached a settlement with ICTSI resolving all legal claims related to the ICTSI litigation and the ILWU's bankruptcy filing. The International Executive Board immediately held a special meeting for an update and discussion regarding the settlement. The Coast Longshore Division also held a one-day caucus on February 12th to receive and update and discuss the settlement.

On February 22nd, the bankruptcy court approved the settlement and dismissed the ILWU's bankruptcy case. This brings to a close a difficult chapter for our union. The settlement was reached after

International Executive Board made the difficult and painful decision to file bankruptcy protection and we stayed the course. That brave decision by your leadership has allowed us to free ourselves from the long-running litigation that has afflicted this union for far too long. It's important that we learn from this and make sure we don't forget that our actions have consequences.

These past few months have been difficult for the officers, our locals, and the rank and file. During this time, the resolve and determination of the membership never wavered. You responded to

being pushed by a tailwind. Full transparency: There will be some painful discussions as we set the path forward, begin the recovery process, and prepare for a brighter future. The ILWU is a global treasure worth defending.

Thank you to the union staff, attorneys, and other professionals, who helped us throughout this process. Thank you to all of the unions and our brother and sisters in the global labor movement for their strong show of solidarity and support. This organization rose to the occasion and lived up to its name – we could not have gotten through this hard time without the collective support of so many.

God Bless the Mighty ILWU.



## DISPATCHER

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Communications Director

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# Mensaje del presidente

## La resolución de la demanda de décadas de ICTSI permite que el ILWU siga adelante y que nos enfoquemos en nuestro futuro y el trabajo importante de este sindicato

En mi último mensaje de presidente en el *Dispatcher* de septiembre 2023 se escribió durante un tiempo de incertidumbre.

En aquel mensaje, expliqué por qué el ILWU se había declarado en bancarrota bajo el Capítulo 11, el 30 de septiembre, 2023. Ahora estoy escribiendo este mensaje de presidente para compartir que la declaración de bancarrota de ILWU y el litigio con ICTSI Oregon que duró una década, han sido resueltos. El 1º de febrero, el ILWU anunció que, junto a la División de Estibadores Costeros, se había llegado a una resolución negociada con ICTSI la cual resolvió todo reclamo legal relacionado al litigio de ICTSI y la declaración de bancarrota de ILWU. La Junta Ejecutiva Internacional celebró de inmediato una reunión especial para ponerse al día y dialogar sobre el acuerdo. La División de Estibadores Costeros también llevó a cabo una asamblea el 12 de febrero para recibir, ponerse al día y hablar del acuerdo.

El día 22 de febrero, el tribunal de quiebras aprobó la resolución negociada y desestimó la causa de bancarrota del ILWU. Esto concluye un capítulo difícil para nuestro sindicato. El acuerdo se logró después de varios días de mediación supervisada por un juez federal de quiebras e incluye una amplia exención mutua de reclamaciones y disputas entre las

partes, incluso los reclamos de la demanda de ICTSI, y el pago de \$20.5 millones a ICTSI. Mientras el acuerdo de los \$20.5 millones es un trago amargo y caro, ahora todos podemos seguir adelante y enfocarnos en nuestro futuro y el trabajo importante de este sindicato.

Los funcionarios titulados y la Junta Ejecutiva Internacional tomaron la decisión difícil y dolorosa de entrar en la protección de la bancarrota y mantuvimos el rumbo. Esa valiente decisión de parte de su liderazgo nos ha permitido liberarnos del litigio prolongado que ha afligido este sindicato por demasiado tiempo. Es importante aprender de esto y asegurar que no nos olvidemos de que nuestras acciones tienen consecuencias.

Han sido difíciles estos últimos meses para los funcionarios, nuestros locales, y los miembros de base. Durante este tiempo, la resolución y la determinación de los miembros nunca flaquearon. Ustedes respondieron a esta adversidad con fuerza y unidad. No esperaría menos de esta gran membresía. Como comenté en mi mensaje de presidente del septiembre 2023, este grupo de funcionarios y nuestra membresía somos capaces de lidiar con esta clase de problema. De hecho, hemos lidiado con este problema, hemos resuelto este problema, y ahora nuestro sindicato está en el mejor camino.

Quiero agradecerles a todos los que han apoyado al ILWU y los que trabajaron tan duros para sacarnos adelante. Gracias a los funcionarios titulados, los funcionarios de la División de Estibadores Costeros de ILWU, los locales y afiliados de ILWU, y los miembros del ILWU por su apoyo inquebrantable y dedicación a este sindicato. Un reconocimiento y agradecimiento especial deben hacerse a la membresía del Local 142 de ILWU, los funcionarios y la Junta Ejecutiva del Local 142 de ILWU, y la División de Estibadores de Hawaii por dar un paso al frente y otra vez mostrarnos lo que significa la solidaridad verdadera a través de sus admirables acciones.

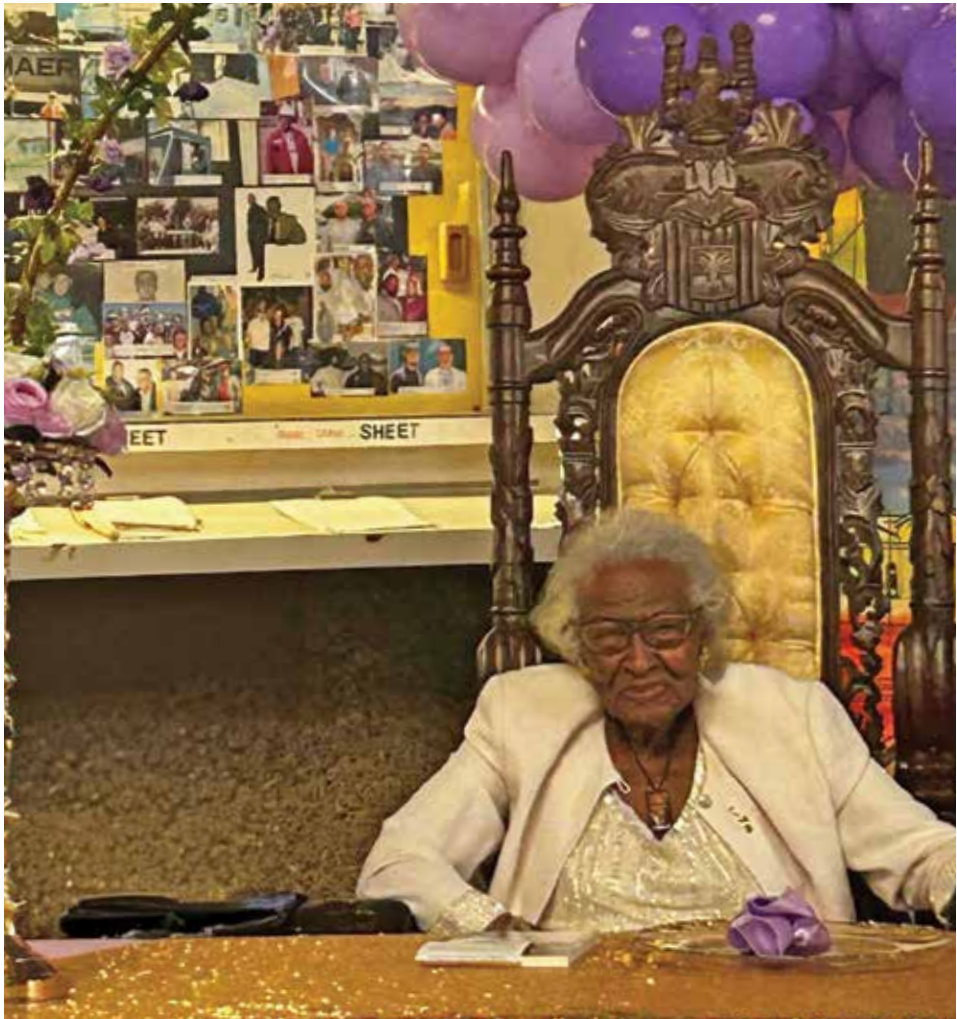
Acabo de regresar del Congreso Nacional de la Unión Marítima de Australia (MUA, siglas en inglés) en Adelaide en el cual el Secretario Nacional de la MUA, Paddy Crumlin, presentó a nuestra delegación con un cheque de AUD \$500,000 para contribuir a los gastos de ILWU de la resolución del litigio. La membresía de la MUA- trabajadores portuarios y marítimos al otro lado del mundo quienes no estaban involucrados en la disputa con ICTSI nos mostraron que nos cubrían las espaldas, aunque esta batalla no era la suya. Sus acciones, no palabras, nos mostraron que no andamos solos.



El ILWU entrará a nuestro Congreso ILWU 2024 del 17 al 21 de junio en Vancouver, Canadá, impulsado por un viento en popa. En plena transparencia: Habrá algunas conversaciones dolorosas al forjar el camino adelante, comenzar el proceso de recuperación, y preparar por un futuro mejor. El ILWU es un tesoro mundial que vale la pena defender.

Gracias al personal del sindicato, los abogados y otros profesionales quienes nos ayudaron durante este proceso. Gracias a todos los sindicatos y hermanos y hermanas en el movimiento laboral global por su fuerte muestra de solidaridad y apoyo. Esta organización estuvo a la altura de las circunstancias e hizo honor a su nombre – no pudiéramos haber pasado este tramo difícil sin el apoyo colectivo de tantos.

Dios bendiga el poderoso ILWU.



**Sadie William Centennial:** More than 200 people gathered at the Local 10 hall in San Francisco to celebrate the 100th birthday of Sadie Williams, widow of ILWU icon Cleophas Williams. The celebration included a performances by Local 10 Drill Team and a host of speakers including Local 10 President Trent Williams, and Local 10 Vice President Vanetta Hamlin, family members, and friends recounting her remarkable life and contributions to the ILWU.



ILWU Locals 5, 19, 21, 23 & The Puget Sound Region Inland Boatman's Union joined hundreds of workers on the steps of the Washington State Legislative Building on Wednesday, February 28th. Workers are calling on the Senate to pass HB 1893, which would provide access to Unemployment Insurance for striking workers. This bill has already passed through the Washington House of Representatives. If signed into law, Washington will join New York, New Jersey and Maine, whose workers already have this benefit.



# Celebrating BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## We are the ILWU



### Donald Mathews Southern California Pensioners

**I started as a casual in 1980 and was registered in 1982.** My father was a longshoreman. He had gang number three, his name was James Matthews, Jr. My father's first cousin told him to come out to California because there was work for him. They were from Louisiana and back in the day, they would help each other, and inform each other when opportunities showed up. They used to work on the sugarcane plantation

and they had experience driving winches. They loaded sugarcane barges. It was nothing to them, it was just easy peasy. It takes a lot of skill to drive the winches. You have to keep it level yourself. The speed you move it is what keeps it from swaying. I appreciate that his cousin called him and told him to come out here and get this opportunity. They took care of each other.

I'm the youngest of all his children and I'm the one who got the opportunity to become a longshoreman. After I came back from Vietnam in 1969, I went to school. I did alright but God willing I became a casual.

I was lucky because when they brought our 500 group in, Dave Arian taught all of us to memorize the contract and the safety manual. If you know the safety manual and you know the contract, you can advocate for your safety and rights on the job. David and I were very close. My father knew his father and when I got on the waterfront, my father introduced me to David.

I learned the hardcore way. My mentors were Lawrence Thibeaux and Leo Robinson. David took me up to San Francisco and sat me down with them.

The most important thing I did after I was registered was getting involved and volunteering. I immediately ran for the Grievance Committee. After I ran for the Grievance Committee and was elected, I ran for the Registration Committee and was elected. Then I ran as a Caucus Delegate and Conference Delegate, I just kept running for positions; I ran for the Executive Board, so it worked out.

My dad told me to volunteer for these committees so I could understand how the union works. I just got so hungry and enthusiastic that I kept running for committees. I was blown away by the concept that I got to sit across the table from the employers and argue a grievance. That's the power of the union. I became a crane operator, and I just loved driving those cranes. After that, I became a foreman. Once I retired in 2009, I

started volunteering as a pensioner, and they put me on the Pensioners Club Executive Board. If you're active, they want you to keep going.

We are a rank-and-file union. All of the committees I ran for—they weren't jobs. You don't get paid for anything unless you leave town. They give you a role, then you go back to your job. The whole concept of the rank and file is challenging to capitalism.

The thing I love about the International Longshore and Warehouse Union is that we have to vote to decide what we will do. No fat cat could tell us anything. You can argue your position and encourage people to vote this way or that but at the end of the day we all get one vote. That's the beauty of the ILWU.

The unique thing about the Pensioners Association is that at the caucuses and conventions, we get a voice. We can come here, listen, and hear what is going on. We can get up and say something and be heard. We're not going to be able to vote—that is for the active membership. But even after you stop working in this union, you still get to participate. You get a chance to see what's happening. You can tell the younger group the way you did things. That's what gives the membership solidarity. That's what helps them stick together. That's the glue. The thing I learned, the most important thing—just to keep repeating it: volunteer, get involved, help the membership, and give back to the union. That's how we develop the ILWU and the whole rank-and-file concept. I love it.



### Emile Hearne Secretary-Treasurer/ Chief Dispatcher Local 91

**I started on the waterfront in August of 2000.** Back then there were four classifications of longshore workers. There were unidentified casuals, identified casuals, and then B-men and of course A-men. I got my A book in September of 2004. I spent a lot of time on the ships lashing, and doing clerk work. I think that

those two things prepared me the most to be a foreman. The clerk work, learning how to load ships, paying attention on the ship where things go, that sort of thing. You learn a lot about safety during lashing. I got on the supplemental foreman's list in 2011 and took every supplemental job that I possibly could for six years. In 2017 they made me a foreman; I worked off the plug out of Local 91 hall for three years. In January 2021, I was elected Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Dispatcher of Local 91 replacing Ed Capizano, who had been in the job for 17 years before he took off.

My two best friend joined Local 10 in 1991. I saw their growth from when they started to when I got started in 2000. I could see the benefit that they had— the freedom of working when you wanted it, and when you didn't, or working more if you needed to. That was attractive to me. I had little children and having good benefits for them was the main reason I got into the industry—because of my kids. I also thought it would be good to have a pension, you know, a solid retirement plan and those great things that the union offers. That's what made it attractive and it's the best thing that I ever did.

When I was at Local 10 I was a member of the Executive Board for a few years, and I was a member of the Bay Area Longshoremen's Memorial Association (BALMA). I felt like I owed the place something. You gotta pay what you owe. This union has done way more for me than I can ever give it. So I felt like I owed it something and that's what led me to be a part of committees and serving the union.

At Local 91, we had people that had been serving for a long time, and they were getting ready to retire. I knew that somebody was going to have to step up and do that work. When Ed Capizano, the previous Secretary-Treasurer/Chief Dispatcher expressed that he was thinking about leaving, I told him that I was going to come on my own time and learn the job because I thought I could help out. I went out and talked to the members and told them what I wanted to do. I had only been a member for three years, so it took some convincing for the old-timers in the local, but I went out and sold it to them. Thankfully, they elected me.

Until I was elected, Local 91 had never had a Black Secretary-Treasurer!



Chief Dispatcher. Sanders Robinson was our first Black President in 2000. We are a predominantly Black local.

I don't think that labor unions are immune to an absence of diversity in leadership. Times change and people's mindsets change. I think sometimes we all get comfortable with what we've normally seen in leadership. It takes courage to go outside of what you are used to. I give a lot of credit to my local for that.

I'm proud to be a Black man but I'm more proud to be a longshoreman. Being a longshoreman has allowed my family to operate under the comfort that I provide and I'm proud of that as well. I have the comfort of knowing that I'll have a pension waiting for me and that I won't be living in some residential hotel after I leave this industry. The people that I've met and the friends that I have made are people that I would never have met if not for this industry. It's enriched my life and my knowledge of people. I couldn't be more grateful for being a part of the ILWU. It's everything to me and my family.

What I like about being a foreman is that you get to direct people and you get to make certain that they're safe on the job. You get to watch people grow in the industry. You get to have a say in creating opportunities for people. You can help people grow, you can mentor people. That's the best thing about it, mentoring people and helping them along in the industry.

I wake up every single day and at some point, I say to myself, "I'm a foreman." Like, It's like being an astronaut or something. It's very cool. I'm very, very blessed. I have bad days, and I have a lot of stress in my job. Different things happen that make you feel whatever, but at some point every day I'm just so happy that I'm a longshoreman.



**Wilt Watkins**  
**Trustee**  
**Local 23**

**I started right out of high school in 1989.** My mother got married to a longshoreman. I was just a kid in high school at the time. I was living in North Carolina and she called me and asked, "Do you want a job this summer making \$15 an hour?" Like any kid, you hear that hourly rate and I said, "Sure!." I didn't ask any more questions. I'll take it. I don't care what it is. About three or four

months before I graduated high school. I moved back here and graduated from Lincoln High School. The night of my last class at Lincoln, I took my first longshore job and I've been doing it ever since. I took a little break and went to the University of Washington, and then I came back full-time longshoring.

In high school, I played football. So I was pretty strong. Working on the waterfront was an adventure. All the different jobs from working at the granary to working log ships and lashing. There was just a variety of jobs. It was all exciting. For me, it was just something different. I always thought growing up that I would work in an office somewhere. I never thought I would be working outside. As I went through the ranks and began driving machinery, it just added another aspect to the job that made it more fun and more interesting.

Having this career snuck up on me. It's a real blessing to be in a strong union that provides this level of benefits and pay. It put my life on a completely different trajectory. Working on the waterfront is one aspect, but when you get involved in the union, volunteering and holding elected positions—right now I'm a Trustee—you get to see a whole other side of the union.

Being in the ILWU opens up so many doors. At our events, Mayors, Port Commissioners, City Council Members, and members of Congress come out. It's just been eye-opening to see the reach that we have. It amazes me that, as blue-collar workers, we have that kind of outreach and relationships with politicians and can positively impact our community. The union helps my life to be fulfilled. Not only can I go to work on the waterfront, but I can be an official in the union, and it helps me contribute to this community. I can do so many things because the union has opened up doors and provided.

Being a Trustee is great. It was a great entry point for me because we're taking care of the union, and the finances, and approving the things the local does to support the community. I get to work closely with other union members and I like it.

I was motivated to serve as a Trustee by gratefulness. Coming up, I may have had a little chip on my shoulder because it took me so long to become a B-man. But over time, seeing other people in this city struggle, and seeing what a blessing this union has been in my life, I just felt like I had a responsibility to give back. I want to do that. I have some talents and skills that will make the union better and I think it's just a great way of showing my thankfulness and gratitude.

My advice to new people coming into this industry would be to just take a look around and see what a blessing this job is. I know for a lot of

people that realization snuck up on them like it snuck up on me. There are so many opportunities—not only for individual longshore workers and their families but also for them to get out in the community and change people's lives—all based on this job of moving containers. I think that when people see some of the small things that may happen on the job or at the hall where maybe they feel like they're treated a certain way—that's really small stuff in comparison to the big picture of what we have because of this union.

In 2024, especially for Black longshore workers, the landscape has changed quite a bit from when people like Ernie Tanner started, versus where we're at today. I would just say, take full advantage of the opportunities that are out there today. Study your contract, study your working rules, and if you're able to, go to the union meetings. Start being a student of the union so that when it's time, you can run for office and start contributing and just add to our success.

I just want to add a personal thanks to President Willie Adams for his support for the Black Labor History event that we did here in Tacoma. He helped to start the program 20 years ago. The older I get, the more I see the importance of mentoring. That's something that he did while the committee was planning this event so that we didn't have to reinvent the wheel. I think that is important. We get so much further when the people who came before us are giving us pointers, giving us ideas, and guiding us. That's something that Willie did through this whole process with me and he continues to do so. That's something that people may not know about him and may not see. Mentoring—and everybody can do that on certain levels—is just so important, especially on the waterfront. When we have those kinds of mentors, we can go forward quicker and not make the same mistakes that maybe were made in the past. I appreciate Willie for that.

**Melvin Mackay**  
**Local 10**  
**ILWU Executive Board**

**I've been on the waterfront for over 30 years.** I started in 1991. I ended up on the waterfront, because of a friend of mine, Gus Collins. I told him the only job I wanted was on the waterfront because I had worked at Todd Shipyard as a boilermaker in the 70s and I used to watch APL, which was then Sealand, from across the water. A lot of my friends used to work on the waterfront. They were able to make it to see fights all over the world, Atlantic City, New York, and Caesar's Palace. I had to be at work and punch the clock. I left the shipyard and went to General Motors in 1976 and I worked on the motor line, which was way in the back. That's not freedom. I was secluded.

The waterfront was always on my mind because it was open air there. When I started on the waterfront, it was during the Persian Gulf War. There was plenty of work. In 1997 or 1998 I started as a mechanic on the waterfront. From there, that's where my career ended up, as a mechanic.

I got into the political side because I was always in trouble and had to learn how to get out of trouble. Then I started helping other people get out of trouble by knowing what not to do. I learned how to arbitrate. I went to school to learn the anatomy of the law on the waterfront and labor law.

I've served the Local 10 membership in many capacities including being elected as Local 10 President six different times, Business Agent, and Labor Relations Committee. I was elected as the Northern California Representative on the International Executive Board several times starting in 2009 and have also been the Chair of the Northern California District Council since 2009.

Working on the waterfront is a different animal than any other job. You deal with the good, as well as the bad. There's nothing cushy about my job. I enjoy helping people, especially the less fortunate. There is a lot of give and take being an officer of the ILWU.

Being a member of the ILWU means having camaraderie with the majority of the people I work with to show each other that we can move together in the right direction. We don't have to always be stagnant and at a standstill. We're in an organization where you can lend a hand to show something positive. Just because there is a negative person behind, it doesn't stop you from moving forward. I don't care where you're at. I learned that a long time ago. What keeps me going is helping others.

I'm just a working stiff who loves helping people. I think that is my calling because I did it at General Motors. I did it at Todd Shipyard. I was the person who had to say no to the boss for someone else who didn't have a voice because they were scared that they were going to get fired. I've been fired a few times. But I've won my arbitrations after being fired on the waterfront. That's what gave me the initiative to keep cool and to be who I am today.

There are a lot of people that I respect and who have made an impact on the waterfront, like Cleophas Williams, Bill Chester, Mattie Lawson, Debbie Dean, John Carr, Leo Robinson, Leroy King, Trent Willis, Gabriel, Prawl, and others. They made a difference on the waterfront and for Black workers on the waterfront.

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# Notice of Nomination and Primary Elections at ILWU Convention and Coast Longshore Division Caucus

The tri-annual Convention will be held at the Westin Bayshore Hotel, 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver, BC, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 17, 2024, and closing on or about Friday, June 21, 2024. The elected Convention delegates will vote to decide the International budget, proposed increases in per capita rates, as well as policies and direction of the ILWU for the next three-year period. Pursuant to Article VI, Sections 3 through 6 of the ILWU International Constitution, nominations and primary elections for the offices of the International President, International Vice President (Mainland), International Vice President (Hawaii), International Secretary-Treasurer and for approximately 23 International Executive Board members will be held on the last day of the Convention, which is expected to be on Friday, June 21, 2024.

All Convention delegates have the right to nominate candidates for titled office. Nominations shall be from the floor and shall be conducted separately for each titled office. No person may be a nominee in Convention for more than one titled office. There shall be no limit for the number of nominees. No one not an accredited delegate from his/her own local or affiliate (hereinafter collectively referred to as "affiliate") to the Convention may be nominated, except that titled officers who by virtue of having held office in the previous term shall be eligible to be nominated for office. If necessary, a roll call vote shall be held and the two (2) nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected in the primary election. No person may be nominated for any International office unless such person has been a dues paying member of the ILWU for at least five (5) years, including having worked as a rank-and-file worker under jurisdiction of the ILWU for at least two (2) years, or has been a dues-paying member of the ILWU for a period of at least ten (10) years. The nominees so elected in the primary election shall be placed on a referendum ballot for a vote of the entire International active membership for final election.

At the Convention, caucuses of the delegates from each geographical area shall be held at the time and place designated by the International President for the purpose of nominations and primary election of Executive Board members. The nominations and primary election of Executive Board members shall be conducted by each caucus in the same manner as such nomination and primary election are conducted for titled officers by the Convention, provided that no more than twice the number of Executive Board members to be elected from the respective area shall be declared nominated at the primary election. Executive Board members shall in no case be a candidate to succeed themselves unless they are accredited Convention delegates from their own affiliate at the time of nomination. A referendum ballot shall be conducted for the election of Executive Board members in the same manner and at the same time as titled officers, provided that only the active members of the affiliates within each area designated by the Convention shall vote for Executive Board members for their respective areas, and provided further that exclusive of titled officers, there shall not be over one Executive Board member from any one affiliate. This restriction shall not apply to Local 142 in Hawaii. In Hawaii, there shall not be over one Executive Board member from any one industrial group in Local 142. However this restriction shall not apply should an industrial grouping cease to exist.

With respect to any primary election held at the Convention, such election shall be conducted by the International President, provided he/she is not a candidate for office. In the event the International President is a candidate for office, he/she shall appoint another International titled officer who is not a candidate for office to conduct the primary election. If all titled officers are candidates for office, the International President shall appoint an incumbent IEB member who is not a candidate for office, and if none is available then a credentialed Convention delegate who is not a candidate, to conduct the primary election.

Each Convention delegate may vote for up to two (2) nominees in the primary election. A roll call vote shall be taken either by each affiliate or by individual Convention delegate within an affiliate as determined by the procedures of each affiliate.

An affiliate may send as many delegates as it chooses to the International Convention. Delegates shall be elected by either secret referendum ballot of the entire membership or by ballot at a regular meeting of the affiliate, or where for geographical reasons meetings of the entire membership are not practicable, by ballot at regular meetings of its subdivisions. Nominating procedures for delegates shall be established by the affiliate. Where an affiliate has more than one division or unit, it is up to the affiliate to allocate delegates among the divisions or units. An affiliate's constitution and/or by-laws may provide that one or more officers of the affiliate, elected in a secret ballot election, are delegates.

The credentials of delegates elected shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the affiliates, must bear the seal of the affiliate, and certify that the delegate was elected as provided herein. The credentials must be received by the International by no later than May 17, 2021.

The International determines the number of Convention votes allocated to each affiliate based on the average per capita payments on union members and other workers under the affiliate's jurisdiction who pay dues and/or fees to the affiliate in the prior calendar year (2023). The number of Convention votes for ILWU Canada affiliates are based on the average membership of those affiliates in the prior calendar year (2023). The number of votes allocated to each affiliate is provided in the Convention Call which is sent to each affiliate. The International will send each of the affiliates copies of all resolutions, statements of policy, and Constitutional amendments for distribution to their delegates at least two (2) weeks prior to the beginning of the Convention.

All members in good standing of any affiliate of the ILWU shall be eligible to vote in the election in accordance with such affiliate's established rules defining membership in good standing that conforms with the International Constitution.

Pursuant to Rule 6.C of the ILWU Election Rules, which are an Appendix to the ILWU Constitution, any accredited delegate to the International Convention who publicly declares an intention to run for International office may request from the International Union a list of accredited delegates to the International Convention at any time within thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. A list of addresses of those delegates will also be available at the International Union for inspection. The International Union will not provide copies of the addresses of delegates or members of the Union.

Any accredited delegate to the International Convention who publicly declares an intention to run for International office may designate an individual to view on his/her behalf, the list of accredited delegates to the Convention with the following provisions: 1) The candidate must specify in writing the name of the individual designated to view the delegate list and the writing must be signed by the delegate; 2) the individual so designated by a candidate must be an ILWU member in good standing; 3) the rules governing the inspection of the delegate list will apply to the designated representative; and 4) if the candidate's designated representative inspects the delegate list, that will constitute the candidate's permitted one inspection of the delegate list.

The custodians of the Convention delegate list are International Director of Educational Services Robin Walker (Robin.Walker@ilwu.org) and International General Counsel Lindsay Nicholas (Lindsay.Nicholas@ilwu.org) located at the ILWU Headquarters at 1188 Franklin Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, California. For inspections, please contact the custodians of the Convention delegate list. Inspections of the delegate list may only occur during regular business hours between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., and between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Nominations and primary election for the office of the Coast Longshore Division's two (2) Coast Committeeman positions will take place during the Coast Longshore Division Caucus, which will convene on Monday, June 24, 2024 and close on about Friday, June 28, 2024. The Longshore Division Caucus will also be held at the Westin Bayshore Hotel, 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver, BC. Longshore Division Caucus elected delegates have the right to nominate candidates for the two positions of Coast Committeeman. Nominations shall be from the floor and shall be conducted separately for each position. No person may be a nominee for more than one Coast Committeeman position. There shall be no limit to the number of nominees. No one not an accredited Caucus delegate from his or her own local may be nominated, except that an incumbent Coast Committeeman by virtue of having held office in the previous term shall be eligible to be nominated for office. If necessary, a roll call vote will be held and the two (2) nominees receiving the highest number of votes per position shall be declared nominated by the primary election for placement on the membership referendum ballot. The nominees so elected in the primary election shall be placed on a referendum ballot for a vote of the entire Coast Longshore Division membership for final election.

Publicly declared candidates for the position of Coast Committeeman have the right to inspect the list of accredited delegates to the Coast Longshore Division Caucus at any time within thirty (30) days prior to the Caucus. The procedures for inspection shall be the same as those provided above with respect to nominations and primary elections held at the ILWU International Convention.



# ILWU CONVENTION CALL

The Thirty-Ninth Convention of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union will be held June 17-21, 2024 at the Westin Bayshore Hotel located at 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver, BC V6G 2V4. Representation at the Convention and voting strength of the locals/affiliates will be determined in accordance with Article XI of the Constitution. For convenience, referenced sections of Article XI, applying to the Convention, can be found on Page 3 of the Call.

The number of votes to which each local/affiliate will be entitled at the Convention will be based on the average paid membership during 2023. The Constitution does not limit the number of delegates from a local/affiliate. The official voting strength of each local/affiliate is divided among the official delegates representing the local/affiliate.

## CREDENTIALS AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

Credentials to the Convention are enclosed. They are in triplicate. The blue copy is for the delegate to bring to the Convention to present at registration. The yellow copy must be sent to the International Office, to be received no later than May 17, 2024. The green copy is to be kept in the local's/affiliate's files.

In order to be entitled to send delegates to the Convention, each local/affiliate is required to have paid up its per capita, assessments, and any other indebtedness to the International at least one month prior to the Convention (May 17, 2024). In addition, all delegates are required to register for the Convention in advance at: <https://www.ilwu.org/2024Convention>.

Locals/affiliates with a combined membership of 500 or less may consolidate for the purposes of nominating and electing delegates. Methods of election should be worked out by the locals/affiliates involved in accordance with Article XI, Section 4(a) of the International Constitution.

## RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions or amendments to the Constitution that a local/affiliate wishes to propose for the consideration of the Convention should be received at the International Office no later than May 24, 2024. Each resolution or amendment should be submitted electronically by email to [resolutions@ilwu.org](mailto:resolutions@ilwu.org). Resolutions should be in one of the following formats: Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or plain text.

**Please note:** Rules adopted by previous Conventions specify that no resolution or Constitutional amendment will be accepted by the Convention unless submitted by the local's/affiliate's membership or by the local's/affiliate's delegation. In addition, please note that no resolution or Constitutional amendment shall be accepted for consideration after 4:30 p.m. on the second day of Convention, except by unanimous vote of the delegates present.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information on hotel reservations and accommodations are enclosed. Any questions concerning Convention procedures, voting strength, or the number of delegates assigned to each local/affiliate should be addressed to Edwin R. Ferris, Secretary-Treasurer, at the International Office.

In Solidarity,

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE  
AND WAREHOUSE UNION  
1188 Franklin Street  
San Francisco, California 94109

WILLIAM E. ADAMS  
President  
PAUL K. KREUTZ  
Vice President

ROBERT OLVERA, JR.  
Vice President  
EDWIN R. FERRIS  
Secretary-Treasurer

## ARTICLE XI CONVENTION

The following excerpts from Article XI of the ILWU International Constitution are reprinted here for reference.

SECTION 1. A Convention of the International shall be held every three (3) years beginning at 10 a.m. on a Monday between March 1st and June 30th of the year in which the Convention is to be held. However, the International Executive Board may authorize a different Convention location should it be necessary...

SECTION 2. In order to be entitled to send delegates to the Convention and receive voice and vote, a local must have its International per capita, together with assessments and any overdue indebtedness to the International, paid up one month prior to the Convention.

SECTION 3. Representation at the International Convention shall be as follows: each local shall be entitled to one vote regardless of membership up to one hundred (100) members and other workers under the local's jurisdiction who pay dues and/or fees to the local, and one vote for each additional one hundred (100) members and other workers under the local's jurisdiction who pay dues and/or fees to the local, or major fraction thereof of its paid average for the one (1) year period immediately prior to the year in which the Convention is held.

SECTION 4. Delegates to the International Convention shall be elected either by secret referendum ballot of the entire membership or by ballot at a regular meeting of the local, or where for geographical reasons meetings of the entire membership are not practical, by ballot at regular meetings of its subdivisions. Nominating procedures shall be established by the local. The credentials of delegates elected shall be signed by the president and secretary of the local, must bear the seal of the local, and certify that the delegate was elected as provided herein.

Locals may designate member participants in the Convention as observer delegates with voice and vote in all matters before the Convention, except on roll call votes and elections. Such credentials may also be issued by the Credentials Committee with the approval of the Convention.

SECTION 4a. Locals within any geographical subdivision with a combined membership of 500 members or less may consolidate for the purposes of nominating and electing a Convention delegate. Any method of nominating and electing said delegate should be worked out by the said locals involved, providing other provisions of the International Constitution are adhered

to. The delegate elected shall cast the full voting strength of the locals he/she represents in Convention. No proxy vote will be allowed. The delegate's wages and expenses, travel and transportation shall be borne equally by members of the locals the delegate represents. SECTION 5. All credentials must be in the International office thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. The International President may appoint a pre-Convention committee to consist of that number of delegates to the Convention that the International President deems necessary to carry out the functions of the committee, to be selected by the International President with due regard to proportionate representation so far as possible from all areas, with the International Officers to act as ex-officio members of the committee. All work of the pre-Convention committee shall be subject to the approval of the Convention...

SECTION 6. During each Convention, at times and places designated by the International President, each occupational group or geographic area within the International may hold a caucus for the purpose of discussing its specific problems with full authority to set up such machinery as it may deem necessary and appropriate to deal with its collective bargaining problems...

SECTION 7. The Titled Officers and Coast Committee-men who are not elected delegates from their respective locals shall have a voice and vote in the Convention, except on roll call votes.

SECTION 8. Executive Board members who are not elected delegates from their respective locals shall have voice and vote in the Convention, except on roll call votes...

SECTION 9. Pensioners designated by their pension clubs shall be fraternal delegates at Conventions with voice, but no vote, on all matters before the Convention.

SECTION 10. Auxiliary members designated by their auxiliaries shall be fraternal delegates at Conventions with voice, but no vote, on all matters before the Convention.

SECTION 11. Each District Council shall be entitled to send one fraternal delegate to the Convention with voice, but no vote, on all matters before the Convention. The delegate costs shall be borne by the individual District Councils.



continued from page 5

Black History Month is a significant and important time to recognize and celebrate the immense contributions and achievements of Black individuals throughout history. It is a time to honor the resilience, strength, and perseverance of the Black community in the face of adversity and oppression. Black History Month serves as a reminder of the struggles and sacrifices that have been made by Black people in the fight for equality and justice. It is a time to reflect on the injustices and inequalities that continue to plague our society and to recommit ourselves to the ongoing work of dismantling systemic racism and discrimination.

This month is an opportunity to educate ourselves and others about the rich and diverse history of Black people, including their achievements in the arts, sciences, politics, and more. It is a chance to amplify the voices and stories of Black individuals who have been marginalized and overlooked in mainstream historical narratives.

Black History Month is not just a time to look back at the past, but also a time to look forward to the future. It is a reminder that the fight for racial equality is far from over and that we must continue to work towards a more just and inclusive society for all.

Let us use this month as a catalyst for change and as a reminder of the importance of standing up against racism and discrimination in all its forms.

## A Helping Hand...

...when you need it most. That’s what we’re all about. We are the representatives of the ILWU-sponsored recovery programs. We provide professional and confidential assistance to you and your family for alcoholism, drug abuse and other problems—and we’re just a phone call away.

### ILWU LONGSHORE DIVISION

ADRP—Southern California  
Tamiko Love  
29000 South Western Ave., Ste 205  
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275  
(310) 547-9966

ADRP—Oregon  
Brian Harvey  
5201 SW Westgate Dr. #207  
Portland, OR 97221  
(503) 231-4882

ADRP—Northern California  
Hunny Powell  
HPowell@benefitplans.org  
400 North Point  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
(415) 776-8363

ADRP—Washington  
Donnie Schwendeman  
3600 Port of Tacoma Rd. #503  
Tacoma, WA 98424  
(253) 922-8913

### ILWU WAREHOUSE DIVISION

DARE—Northern California  
Teamsters Assistance Program  
300 Pendleton Way  
Oakland, CA 94621  
(510) 562-3600

### ILWU CANADA

EAP—British Columbia  
John Felicella  
3665 Kingsway, Ste 300  
Vancouver, BC V5R 5WR  
(604) 254-7911

## TRANSITIONS

### NEW PENSIONERS:

**Local 4:** Randal C. Bernhardt; Lonnie J. Ellingson; **Local 8:** Wayne R. King; Randy A. Rich; James A. Strader; **Local 10:** Eric B Davidson; Wali A. Muhammad; Tung H. Nguyen; Michael K. Raines; Terry W. Redmond; Felipe J. Riley; Ronnie E. Roetman; Andrea Smith; Jerold D. Wright; **Local 13:** Ludovico E. Arninez; Peter A. Bobak; William H. Burden Jr; Derek L. Campbell; Dante Cupello; George F. Gonzales, Jr.; Martin M. Gutierrez; William J. Hixson; George A. Hoites; Tony J. Lauro; Larry O. Lean; John E. Ogg; Robie M. Orsonio; Rudy J. Rosas; Larry A. Suarez Sr.; Taelenuu T. Tuaaau; Audy Washington; **Local 19:** John C. Bee; David L. Frye; Terry M. Harder; Jopdi L. Itman; Jeffrey J. Simonton; **Local 26:** Sergio A. Ortega; **Local 29:** Alex J. Castaneda; **Local 52:** Richard Anderson, III; Felbert Barnett, Jr.; Steven D. Bird; **Local 54:** Mark D. Luft; **Local 63:** Debora M. Klett; Kim A. Shenton; **Local 91:** Marc R. Martinez; **Local 94:** Siupolu P. Belaustegui; Steven V. Bellenfant;

### DECEASED PENSIONERS:

**Local 8:** Normie S. Carmack; Ornia J. Freeman; **Local 10:** Plato Barnes; William A. Bing; Charles H. Devine; Steven R. Hanson; Robert L. Oliver; Jessie Walls; **Local 13:** John Araujo, Jr.; Matthew J. Bologna; David H. Contreras; Louis F. Gonzales; Robert C. Gonzales;

Kenneth R. Klausner; Pavol Kovacik; Kenneth Perez; **Local 14:** John C. Burman; **Local 19:** Alexander Baroumes; Edwin R. Hicks; Charles Keppner; **Local 23:** James S. Lemon; Wayne L. Rees; **Local 52:** Norman Hansen; **Local 63:** Edna Daley; Iris K. Fukai; Brad L. Grosz; Patricia A. Noceti; Calvin V. Thomas; **Local 98:** Robert J. De Young. Sr.; Alan C. Eriksen; Wally U. Styrk;

### DECEASED ACTIVE MEMBERS

**Local 10:** Sean H. Hall; Andre L. Hamlin; **Local 13:** Michael Mannino; Alexander Mendez; Christina D. Ison; Louie Trejo; Ricardo Q. Segovia; Michele E. Ysais; David A. Guajaca; Keith Rowell; Nate Blackman; **Local 19:** Emria McGill; Scotty Sigler; **Local 23:** Arnie S. Young; **Local 26:** Ernestine Seay; **Local 53:** Keith Kaminski; ;

### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

**Local 7:** Sharon E. Marshall; **Local 8:** Mary J. Noonan; Jean L. Wegener; **Local 10:** Ruby Fisher, Minnie Paige; Dawn Rutter; **Local 13:** Shirley Cooper; Doris Donahue; Sandra E. Johnson; Margaret Lampkin; Rosa Maldonado; Rita Nappi; Rita Quintana; Delia M. Vasquez; **Local 19:** Maria Lerbrek; Leatrice Vigil; **Local 34:** Dores A. Summit; **Local 46:** Carolyn L. Garcia; Dolores Mendez; **Local 63:** Marjorie V. Archibald; Edna Daley; Nina L. Martorella; **Local 91:** Alda R. Capela;

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