

SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

UNION UPDATE



Outsourcing victories add 70 state jobs

Expensive private contractors ruled illegal

A long-term push to replace private contractors with state employees comes to fruition Oct. 1 when Local 1000-represented workers will take over food service duties at the Veterans Home of Chula Vista.

Within six months, state employees are also scheduled to replace private contractors at the Veterans Home of Barstow. Together the two facilities will add a total of nearly 70 new state jobs.

“These victories show what we can accomplish in the fight against illegal outsourcing,” said Robyn Sherles, chair of Bargaining Unit 15, which will represent the newly hired food service workers. “The veterans department tried to circumvent the law and bring in contractors on a permanent basis, but we kept fighting and won.”

Legal challenge succeeds

The new jobs are the direct result of a legal challenge filed by Local 1000

against the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) in 2009. The State Personnel Board (SPB) in 2010 agreed with a challenge by Local 1000 and overturned a five-year private services contract.

In more than 120 challenges by Local 1000, the SPB has ruled private contracts illegal more than 80 percent of the time.

Although CDVA agreed to comply with the ruling, the transition has taken the state about a year. Local 1000’s legal team has monitored the situation to ensure that the state replaces the private vendors.

Bills to limit contractors

“The situation at the two veterans homes is a good example of why the governor needs to sign AB 740 into law,” said Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker. That bill, sponsored by Local 1000, would require state agencies to immediately discontinue a private vendor contract that is found to be illegal by SPB and



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—Robyn Sherles
Chair of Bargaining Unit 15

prohibit that agency from entering into another contract for the same or similar services.

TAKE ACTION

Tell Gov. Brown to stop wasteful outsourcing

Nearly 2,000 Local 1000 members have sent emails urging Gov. Jerry Brown to sign AB 740 and AB 172—two Local 1000-sponsored bills that will help prevent the use of private vendors who often do the same work as state employees at twice the cost or more.

“Our campaign to protect our members from outsourcing is both a legal battle and a political fight that has a direct impact in workplaces throughout the state. Join me in urging the governor to sign these important bills.”

—Yvonne R. Walker
President, Local 1000



Send your message to Governor Brown
Go to: seiu1000.seiu.org/outsourcing-bills

Resource Center

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

Website

seiu1000.org

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Mitigating impacts of budget cuts and realignment at CDCR

Protecting members' seniority, placement and safety

Local 1000 is at the bargaining table to negotiate the impact of budget cuts and the effects of the realignment of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Under Realignment, much of CDCR parole services will be transferred to county probation agencies.

Our representatives are meeting with the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) and CDCR management. Discussions included an alternative layoff process as part of the Realignment.

"Throughout this process our goal is to protect members' rights, focusing on seniority, expanding placement opportunities and ensuring safety in the workplace," said Margarita Maldonado, Local 1000 vice president for bargaining.

Member networks critical

Local 1000 is working to build strong member networks throughout CDCR. "With change on the

horizon and many things yet to be decided, it's critical that we are able to communicate quickly among our members in each facility, and respond quickly to emerging issues," added Maldonado. "It's important that members stay informed, and stay in touch with each other."

STAY IN TOUCH

CDCR employees – you are our eyes and ears in the worksite and an important part of Local 1000's strategy to protect your rights. Report any announcements or rumors regarding jobs, placement or safety issues to:

EMAIL:

CDCRrealignment@seiu1000.org

CALL the Member Resource Center:
866.471.SEIU (7348)

FAX: **916.554.1269**



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—Margarita Maldonado
Local 1000 Vice President
for Bargaining

FORECLOSURE

Local 1000 helps members keep their homes

Local 1000 is helping our members and their families to keep their homes during uncertain economic times, with actions ranging from protests, to counseling sessions, to aggressive lobbying in the halls of power.

"Our goal is to protect middle class families by keeping people in their homes and keeping our communities strong," said Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker. "This is a national effort that affects all of our communities."

In Los Angeles, our members joined with community groups on Sept. 22 to protest the eviction of Rose Mary Gudiel, an employee of the State Compensation Insurance Fund, whose lender has refused to modify terms of her loan.

In Washington, D.C., SEIU has joined with a broad national coalition for relief for middle class families

who are struggling to keep their homes and working for legislation to push banks to be more flexible with homeowners.

In Sacramento and other California cities, Local 1000 has joined with the nonprofit Hope Against Hope to hold workshops and counsel homeowners who are behind in their payments or upside down in their mortgages on their best options. Local 1000 has co-sponsored more than 30 workshops, including one on Sept. 20 in Sacramento attended by 40 people.

For information on upcoming workshops and other forms of homeowner assistance, go to **hopeagainsthopenow.org**