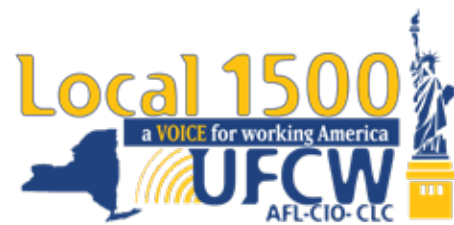


THE Advocate



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THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE
Rob Newell, President
International Vice President



REFLECTIONS ON LEADERSHIP, UNITY, AND ADVOCACY

A few weeks ago, I had the honor of leading Local 1500's delegation onto the floor of the 9th Regular Convention of the UFCW International Union. I have had the opportunity to attend two prior conventions, but this was my first as President. The International Convention occurs every 5 years and is an opportunity for transparency, education, and professional growth for all that attend. Its principal purpose is to elect the International leadership team and to ensure they hear the voices and opinions of the rank-and-file membership as they prepare to guide the UFCW for the next 5 years. The elected delegates present take all actions necessary and cast votes for and against resolutions and constitutional amendments on behalf of their respective Local Union memberships. Once the Convention is concluded the International Constitution is modified to include any/all approved modifications and the International Union resumes its day-to-day operations.

In addition to proudly leading our delegation's activities this year, I was also blessed to be elected by the delegates in attendance to continue in my role as an International Vice President (IVP). Standing with International President Perrone, the Executive Committee, and the rest of the IVP's to take the oath to serve was a very proud moment for me and our Local Union. Although it was great being nominated and elected as an IVP by the International Executive Board in early 2021, being elected by the full convention delegation is a very different and humbling experience. I am happy to report that both your rank-and-file and staff delegates participated in and attended all Convention activities/classes and interacted with and learned from other UFCW members from across the United States and Canada.

Local 1500 was also incredibly well represented on the Convention stage by both Secretary-Treasurer Aly Waddy and EVP/Recorder Joe Waddy. Aly and Joe were both asked by President Perrone to serve on Convention committees as co-chairs. Aly served as a co-chair on the Convention Rules Committee while Joe served as co-chair of the Human Rights and Community Action Committee! I assure you that they both made us so proud, not only in the preliminary and planning meetings leading up to the Convention, but especially when the time came for them to hit the stage with their other co-chairs! Additionally, Aly also helped create and run a delegate educational class that was presented during a Convention break out period. What a week, and what an honor to have our three highest elected officers representing our membership in front of the entire Convention! In the words of Local 1500 President Emeritus Tony Speelman, "What a team!"

Not to be outdone, Local 1500 Director of Operations Paul Santaripa also made his presence felt at the Convention. In addition to spending countless hours of his free time working in the Outreach membership booth to ensure that there was always proper coverage whenever the hall was open, Paul was also elected to serve as the region 1 coordinator for UFCW Outreach. Outreach, which is one of the four UFCW constituency groups, has a mission to help support, educate, and create opportunities for 2SLGBTQ+ workers across all industries in the United States and Canada. Even as an ally, Paul has demonstrated a dedication to the Outreach agenda and to helping 2SLGBTQ+ workers every day. Thank you so much Paul for all that you do for our membership!

Unlike other Conventions I've attended in the past there was a higher degree of discontent and disagreement on display during this one. There was a group of delegates who expressed opinions and ideas that differed from the recommendations of the International leadership and the Executive Board and were also not shared by the majority of the delegates. They took every opportunity to make sure that they were heard, and they occasionally made it personal. Many of these delegates were rank-and-file members that spoke passionately about their beliefs and although I didn't completely agree with many of their arguments or opinions, they deserve to be commended. It takes a great deal of internal calm and guts to speak into a microphone in front of over 1500 people, it takes even more when you are saying something different than the majority believes. Thankfully, the Convention offered the opportunity to find a few compromises and some modifications to resolutions were made during the sessions. At the end of the day, if you put a group of delegates from across two nations in the same room and then ask them to talk about the number and types of topics we covered, it's only natural to uncover some differences of opinions. I'm sure that, like us, most delegations took the time to outline the issues they wanted to cover and prepared their delegates to talk about them on the Convention floor on behalf of their memberships. And like our delegation I am sure that they thought they knew everything there was to know about the issue and they were prepared to defend it at all costs. Unfortunately, in a room that size, with a main issue that is slightly misunderstood, the path towards compromise can be very bumpy and becomes heated quickly.

When that final gavel fell to end the Convention there was a feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment for our delegation. We had worked together so well with our International and our sister Locals on countless issues to make this Convention a success for our membership. On that final day we were also represented on stage by two of our rank-and-file Vice Presidents, Keith Jefferson, and Artan Shabani who, as always, shined in the spotlight. Although the video that they contributed to wasn't shown at the Convention because of time constraints, I can't help but feel like we'll see it soon at another International event. Either way we appreciate the efforts that Keith, Artan and our entire rank-and-file VPs all made during this Convention. We walked everywhere together and were proud to have the opportunity to both represent and serve our membership on all fronts.

Being a part of this great Union never ceases to amaze me. As many of you know, just prior to the Convention I lost my father. He had a very long fight with Pancreatic Cancer, and although he kicked its ass for over 7 years, it eventually caught up to him. The overwhelming outpouring of love, support, cards, and visits to his services from our Union truly amazed my family. I guess no matter how long you do this job you never truly realize how big this Union family can be. The sendoff my father received was something that made me proud, something he would have never expected and something that made my mother cry. And even though I will spend the rest of my life missing him, I have these and so many other incredible memories to help me get through it. Like every other time in my adult life, when I needed my Union, you were there for me. That is why I will always be Union proud and Union Strong and why I will fight like hell to protect our membership and your families. On behalf of my personal family thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. **#MyUnionHasValue**





LA PERSPECTIVA DEL PRESIDENTE
Rob Newell, Presidente
Vice Presidente Internacional



REFLEXIONES SOBRE EL LIDERAZGO, LA UNIDAD Y LA DEFENSA

Hace unas semanas, tuve el honor de liderar la delegación del Local 1500 en el piso de la 9na Convención Regular de la Unión Internacional UFCW. Tuve la oportunidad de asistir a dos convenciones anteriores, pero esta fue la primera como Presidente. La Convención Internacional ocurre cada 5 años y es una oportunidad para la transparencia, la educación y el crecimiento profesional para todos los asistentes. Su objetivo principal es elegir el equipo de liderazgo internacional y asegurarse de que escuchen las voces y opiniones de los miembros de las bases mientras se preparan para guiar a la UFCW durante los próximos 5 años. Los delegados electos presentes toman todas las medidas necesarias y emiten votos a favor y en contra de las resoluciones y enmiendas constitucionales en nombre de sus respectivas afiliaciones sindicales locales. Cuando se concluye la Convención, se modifica la Constitución Internacional para incluir cualquiera o todas las modificaciones aprobadas y la Unión Internacional reanuda sus operaciones diarias.

Además de liderar con orgullo las actividades de nuestra delegación este año, también tuve la bendición de ser elegido por los delegados que asistieron para continuar en mi función como Vicepresidente Internacional (VPI). Estar de pie con el Presidente Internacional Perrone, el Comité Ejecutivo y el resto de los VPI para tomar el juramento de servir fue un momento muy orgulloso para mí y para nuestra Unión Local. Aunque fue genial ser nominado y elegido como VPI por la Junta Ejecutiva Internacional al principio del 2021, ser elegido por la delegación completa de la convención es una experiencia muy diferente y humillante. Me complace informar que tanto los delegados de las bases como los de personal participaron y asistieron a todas las actividades/clases de la Convención e interactuaron y aprendieron de otros miembros de la UFCW de todo El Estados Unidos y Canadá.

El Local 1500 también estuvo increíblemente bien representado en el escenario de la Convención tanto por la Secretaria-Tesorera Aly Waddy como por el VPE/Registrador Joe Waddy. El presidente Perrone les pidió a Aly y Joe que sirvieran en los Comités de la Convención como copresidentes. ¡Aly se desempeñó como copresidenta del Comité de Reglas de la Convención, mientras que Joe se desempeñó como copresidente del Comité de Derechos Humanos y Acción Comunitaria! Les aseguro que ambos nos hicieron sentir muy orgullosos, no solo en las reuniones preliminares y de planificación previas a la Convención, sino especialmente cuando llegó el momento de subir al escenario con sus otros copresidentes. Además, Aly también ayudó a crear y ejecutar una clase educativa para delegados que se presentó durante un período de descanso de la Convención. ¡Qué semana y qué honor tener a nuestros tres funcionarios electos más importantes representando a nuestra membresía frente a toda la Convención! En palabras del presidente emérito del Local 1500, Tony Speelman, "¡Qué equipo!"

Para no ser menos, el Director de Operaciones del Local 1500, Paul Santarpia, también hizo sentir su presencia en la Convención. Además de pasar incontables horas de su tiempo libre trabajando en el puesto de miembros de Outreach para asegurarse de que siempre hubiera una cobertura adecuada cuando el salón estuviera abierto, Paul también fue elegido para servir como coordinador de la región 1 para el UFCW Outreach. Outreach, que es uno de los cuatro grupos constituyentes del UFCW, tiene la misión de ayudar a apoyar, educar y crear oportunidades para los trabajadores 2SLGBTQ+ en todas las industrias en los Estados Unidos y Canadá. Incluso como aliado, Paul ha demostrado una dedicación a la agenda de Outreach y a ayudar a los trabajadores 2SLGBTQ+ todos los días. ¡Paul, muchas gracias por todo lo que haces por nuestra membresía!

A diferencia de otras convenciones a las que he asistido en el pasado, durante esta se mostró un mayor grado de descontento y desacuerdo. Hubo un grupo de delegados que expresaron opiniones e ideas que diferían de las recomendaciones del liderazgo internacional y la Junta Ejecutiva y tampoco fueron compartidas por la mayoría de los delegados. Aprovecharon cada oportunidad para asegurarse de que fueran escuchados, y ocasionalmente lo hicieron personal. Muchos de estos delegados eran miembros de las bases que hablaron apasionadamente sobre sus creencias y, aunque no estuve completamente de acuerdo con muchos de sus argumentos u opiniones, merecen ser elogiados. Se necesita mucha calma interna y valor para hablar por un micrófono frente a más de 1500 personas, se necesita aún más cuando dices algo diferente de lo que la mayoría cree. Afortunadamente, la Convención ofreció la oportunidad de encontrar algunos compromisos y se hicieron algunas modificaciones a las resoluciones durante las sesiones. Al final del día, si pone a un grupo de delegados de dos naciones en la misma sala y luego les pide que hablen sobre la cantidad y los tipos de temas que cubrimos, es natural descubrir algunas diferencias de opiniones. Estoy seguro de que, como nosotros, la mayoría de las delegaciones se tomaron el tiempo para describir los temas que querían cubrir y prepararon a sus delegados para hablar sobre ellos en el pleno de la Convención en nombre de sus miembros. Y al igual que nuestra delegación, estoy seguro de que pensaban que sabían todo lo que había que saber sobre el tema y estaban preparados para defenderlo a toda costa. Desafortunadamente, en una sala de ese tamaño, con un problema principal que se malinterpreta un poco, el camino hacia el compromiso puede ser muy accidentado y se calienta rápidamente.

Cuando cayó el martillo final para poner fin a la Convención, hubo un sentimiento de satisfacción y logro para nuestra delegación. Hemos trabajado muy bien juntos con nuestra Internacional y nuestras Locales hermanas en innumerables temas para hacer de esta Convención un éxito para nuestra membresía. Ese último día también nos representaron en el escenario dos de nuestros Vicepresidentes de las bases, Keith Jefferson y Artan Shabani, quienes, como siempre, brillaron bajo los reflectores. Aunque el video en el que ellos contribuyeron no se mostró en la Convención debido al límite de tiempo, no puedo evitar sentir que pronto lo veremos en otro evento Internacional. De cualquier manera, apreciamos los esfuerzos que Keith, Artan y todos nuestros Vicepresidentes de las bases hicieron durante esta Convención. Caminábamos juntos por todas partes y nos enorgulleció tener la oportunidad de representar y servir a nuestra membresía en todos los frentes.

Ser parte de esta gran Unión nunca deja de sorprenderme. Como muchos de ustedes saben, justo antes de la Convención perdí a mi padre. Tuvo una lucha muy larga contra el cáncer de páncreas, y aunque le pateó el trasero más de 7 años, eventualmente lo alcanzó. La efusión abrumadora de amor, apoyo, tarjetas y visitas a sus servicios de nuestra Unión realmente asombró a mi familia. Supongo que no importa cuánto tiempo hagas este trabajo, nunca te das cuenta de lo grande que puede ser esta familia de la Unión. La despedida que recibió mi padre fue algo que me enorgulleció, algo que él nunca hubiera esperado y algo que hizo llorar a mi madre. Y aunque pasaré el resto de mi vida extrañándolo, tengo estos y muchos otros recuerdos increíbles que me ayudarán a superarlo. Como siempre en mi vida adulta, cuando necesité mi Unión, están ahí para mí. Es por eso que siempre estaré orgulloso de la Unión y ser Unión Fuerte y lucharé como el demonio para proteger a nuestra membresía y a sus familias. En nombre de mi

MiUniónTieneValor





JUST FOR THE RECORD
Aly Y. Waddy, Secretary-Treasurer

GREEDFLATION

I have reported before on the seemingly ever-expanding wage gap between CEO's and their workforce. Now, I do understand that the cost for a captain steering the ship is higher than the cost for a deckhand, but in 2020 the average CEO earned 365 times what their regular employee earned. That means every single day the CEO made what their median employee earned in an entire year. But as crazy as that sounds, these wage gaps got much, much worse. In 2021, it was estimated that the CEO-to-worker compensation ratio was 398.8 in the United States. This indicates that, on average, CEOs received about 398.8 times the annual average salary of a production and/or nonsupervisory worker in the key industry of their firm. Sounds like we need to start a conversation.

Recently the CEO of Starbucks' earned 1,579 times more than their median employee, while the CEO at McDonald's earned 2,251 times more than their average worker. The pay gap for the CEO of Expedia was 2,897-to-1, and although we shouldn't be surprised by this, the pay gap at Amazon was 6,474-to-1. Amazon's CEO needed to be paid 6,474 times what their average worker made? Seriously?

From 1978 – 2021, CEO pay skyrocketed by 1,460%. For the past 10 years, the average CEO pay climbed by approximately \$500,000 each year, while the average worker wages have increased by just \$1,303. That hurts, doesn't it? Let's add insult to that injury. What amazes me even more is that company executives have found a way to stay even further ahead of the pace they already set. As inflation continues to rise and negatively affect most of us, so rises out of the ashes like a phoenix a term called "Greedflation." Haven't heard of it yet? You will soon, don't worry. One definition of this term is 'the idea that businesses are taking advantage of high inflation and the cost-of-living crisis by increasing prices beyond their own rising costs, in order to increase their profits'. So, as inflation, and thus your cost of living, goes up, what do the people that run the companies that we shop at do? They raise prices even higher so their profits don't skip a beat. In fact, in many cases, they are actually profiting MORE during this inflationary surge.

Here's a glaring example for you: In 2022, 82% of car buyers paid more than MSRP for their vehicle, compared to only 3% in 2021, and around 0% in 2020. And do you remember 2019 when you were able to haggle and bargain down the price of your car? Bring it closer to home, I am sure you have seen the prices of many of your favorite food items get a bit out of control lately. Companies often cite "supply chain shortages" to explain why they raise their prices, but I think the truth is they let nothing interfere with their profits. There's another, more familiar term for what companies have been doing... they're price gouging, plain and simple.

In an age where workers are standing up for their rights and unionizing more than ever, we have seen workers' benefits and especially wages substantially increase. Couple that ideology with the sharp increase in minimum wage, and you would think that workers are in the best financial situation in a very long time, right? But after a two year pandemic, plus inflation, CEOs had plenty to pin the blame for their price increases already but threw in the costs of increased worker wages. The AFL-CIO's annual Executive Paywatch Report, however, shows that workers' real wages fell 2.4% in 2021, after adjusting for inflation, and we are still waiting for the 2022 numbers. When inflation is 7.1% but workers' wages rise just 4.7%, we are going the wrong way.

In the heart of the pandemic, our supermarket industry saw record profits. They could have even sold the furniture, fixtures, and equipment for a huge profit, but they wouldn't have anywhere to put the groceries after. That enabled your union bargaining committees to in turn extract as much money in wages for you as we could. We hadn't seen wage increases that size in a long time and it only happened because we stepped in and stepped up with your committees. We fought to redirect some of those increased profits to the hardworking people who made it for the CEOs in the first place, YOU!

But what about the workers that do not have a union fighting on their behalf? These workers especially continue to suffer from the CEO wage gap, as there is no 'watchdog' or helping hand looking out for their interests. Imagine what we could accomplish if even more workers took the step to unionize their workplaces? While we may never completely abolish the wage gap, strengthening and educating the workforce can certainly help chip away at the greed many corporations display, and help spread the profits more evenly for everyone.

The rich will always find a way to get richer, Greedflation is proof of that. We need to continue to fight to make sure they are not getting rich while your wages remain stagnant or worse yet -- slide backwards because of inflation and greed. Shame on anyone who has raised prices but not wages to match. And shame on anyone who refuses to admit that inflation, plus inflated prices, equals less in real employee wage increases, which translates to their employees being worse off than before.

We are here to hold greedy employers accountable. To make sure that just like them, workers also earn more money year over year, and can have a profitable life of their own. Local 1500 will never stop fighting to address any injustices that surround our members' jobs. We stand strong with our 15,000+ members, plus all of our sibling Locals in the UFCW and across all international unions within the AFL-CIO to continue to fight corporate greed and bring dignity to our jobs!



BLOOD DRIVE



King Kullen pharmacists bargained their new contract earlier this year. We are happy to report that in April, the pharmacists unanimously ratified their contract! Thanks very much Gary Corn and Victoria Natoli for sitting across from your company during negotiations. Great job



POMEGRANATE

In March, members employed by Pomegranate ratified their first contract with Local 1500! Thank you to committee members Mauro, and especially Franco who sat with us through all of the bargaining sessions. And thank you to all the members that had their back! Welcome to our Local 1500 family!!





Joseph Waddy, Executive Vice President/Recorder



WHAT'S NEXT?

When it comes to bargaining your contracts, we have especially seen heightened participation from our membership over the past two years. From your negotiating committees to the rest of the membership backing them up, you have shown that you will not sit still when it comes to protecting what's been earned over the years. I thank you again for all your hard work, patience, and solidarity dealing with negotiations, because as we all know, they are never easy.

As our contract bargaining season begins to wind down, you should stay involved with your Union. In my last article I said that our Union business never dies down. We just shift the focal point and head onward to the next challenge. There are many opportunities for you to stay active in your Local, you just may not know it. As I have mentioned before, we need your participation in our fundraising drives, and I'll take a moment to touch on that again. For the past few years we've run a successful bowling event up in Dutchess County. Although this year's event has already passed please try and join us next Spring because it is a great time for the membership and a great cause. We also run other events to raise funds for the Local 1500 Charity Fund, such as comedy shows in Nassau County, fishing trips in Suffolk County, and sporting events throughout NYC. There is no shortage of fundraisers and membership events that you can attend, across our jurisdiction.

Every year our membership attends the Labor Day Parade in Manhattan. For the many of you that have attended in the past, you know how cool this event can be. The more people we get there, the more of a splash we make in the streets of NYC. This is also a great event for you to bring the kids, as they can walk with us or even ride on our parade float! This year's parade is on Saturday, September 9th so come join us!

All of these events are very important, and you should try to be as involved as possible, but we are also seeking your involvement in events that are a little more serious as well. You were fired up during your contract negotiations and we can use some of that energy to help combat the companies that are seeking to do harm to your company and as a result, do harm to your jobs. There are non-union companies that are seeking to open locations very close to where you work. You know what that means? That means that their employees have fewer benefits, wage increases, and other protections than you do, so that puts their company at an advantage over yours. Keeping companies like these from opening in our jurisdiction ensures that responsible, union-represented employers like the ones you work for stay profitable. And thus, we can continue to negotiate better contract terms for you in the future. Keeping non-union companies out of our neighborhoods keeps you employed. You may even see some Local 1500 picket lines going up pretty soon to better educate the public about the benefits of shopping Union.

So, what can you do to help with this problem? We are in the process of preparing for informational picket lines at least one or two of these companies in the very near future. And we will need your help walking those picket lines! And yes, we will pay our picketers for their attendance and participation on the line. This is a critical event that will most likely run through the Summer, so if you are serious about helping out, and want to make a little extra cash helping out your Union, reach out to our Director of Operations, Paul Santarpia at

PSantarpia@UFCW1500.org. He will set you up with a schedule based on your availability.

There are other ways for you to keep engaged. We are running several organizing campaigns throughout our jurisdiction that we could use your help with. There are current or upcoming campaigns in the Putnam and Dutchess County areas, in the five boroughs (especially in Brooklyn and Manhattan), and in Nassau County. The message of the benefits of being a Local 1500 member is always delivered best from the mouths of Local 1500 members. At times we need help talking to workers from non-union shops about what it means to be a union member. It could be anything from stopping into a coffee shop to offer workers a thumbs-up-type support on their organizing drive -- to riding along with our organizing team to visit with workers off-site and talk to them about your union experience. Working in a union shop, you may not realize that folks who have never worked in a union environment don't know your point of view. You can bring a vital perspective to a worker meeting, just by talking about your experiences. We need your help to keep leveling the playing field for your companies while elevating the quality of jobs in your communities.

Are you interested in a deeper project in helping other workers join our union? We occasionally seek members who desire to learn how to help people, to attend organizing trainings held in New York or other states, typically in the northeast. These training courses are usually multi-day events, so we would secure your time off from your job, as well as pay for your expenses to attend. It's an exciting opportunity for you to explore, and who knows, you may just fall in love with it! Contact us and let me know if you are interested so when the next training program is announced, we'll already have some folks on deck that we can recommend attending. You won't regret it.

Want a simpler way to stay involved? Don't forget about our quarterly union meetings at our headquarters. Please try to attend these quarterly meetings in person if you can as you will hear the current state of our Union, updates on your employers and negotiations as well as a whole lot more. There is always something significant going on with your Union, so staying engaged is crucial.

From attending a 'fun-raiser', to walking with us in the Labor Day Parade, to staffing a picket line and beyond, there is always something important that you can do to stay in touch with us. We appreciate your support and your presence during your contract negotiations, but that is just one facet of everything that we do to protect your jobs here at local 1500. Let's hold onto that energy and use it to help others benefit too. Don't ever forget that our army is over 15,000 strong and we know you're out there because we saw what you could do during contract negotiations.

Remember that the fight to improve your jobs is not only with your company and not only during contract bargaining time. We are in a constant battle to better peoples' working conditions throughout New York and there is always something you can do to help that fight. So reach out to us -- by phone, by text, by email, on social media, by direct contact with your representative, or grab me after our next meeting and let's talk about it. Thank you for your membership!





ANNUAL CONVENTION



WORKERS MEMORIAL



HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS

\$8,000 WINNERS



Arthur Wolfson
Memorial Scholarship
Anelise Rodriguez
ShopRite Village
102 - PT



Patrick Gleeson
Memorial Scholarship
Michael Power
Stop & Shop 560 - PT



Frank Meehan
Memorial Scholarship
Cristian Rivera
King Kullen 55 - PT



Eugene Kennedy
Memorial Scholarship
Abby Hayes
King Kullen 55 - PT



Pat O'Flaherty
Memorial Scholarship
Samantha Cassel
Stop & Shop 60 - PT



Bernadette Warren
Memorial Scholarship
Janeva Jones
Dep. of James Jones II
King Kullen 26 - FT

\$2,000 WINNERS



Mary Jane Siconolfi
Memorial Scholarship
Victoria Corallo
Stop & Shop 553 - PT



Walter Hardin
ShopRite 235 - PT



Kyle Sadler
Stop & Shop
554 - PT



Marina Caceres
Dep. of Kelly
Morris-Caceres
Stop & Shop
2595 - PT



Austin Meoli
Dependent of
Thomas Meoli
Wild by Nature
201 - FT



Erika Anguisaca
Dependent of
Cruz Anguisac
ShopRite 275 - FT



Timothy Johnston
Dependent of
Richard Johnston
Stop & Shop 2551 - FT



Angad Sahansra
Dependent of
Gurdeep Sahansra
King Kullen
Pharmacy 46 - FT

COLLEGE RECIPIENTS

\$2,000 WINNERS



James Bodendorf
King Kullen 7 - PT



Thomas Bodendorf
King Kullen 50 - PT



Marissa Evans
Stop & Shop
513 - PT



Rachel Pena
Fairway VSM
185 - PT



Tyler Tedeschi
Stop & Shop
563 - PT



George Winderl
Stop & Shop
563 - PT



Ally Wright
Local 1500 - PT



Hajara Zama
ShopRite Mannix
109 - PT

TRADE SCHOOL RECIPIENT \$2,000 WINNER



Ashley McGlone
Dependent of Christine McGlone
Local 1500





Fallon Ager, Director of Region 1 – Northeastern

HELP US PASS THE PRO ACT

Members of Local 1500 are well aware that many of America’s workers would like to join a union, but are afraid to do so out of fear of retaliation or losing their jobs.

That’s why the UFCW is supporting the reintroduction of the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, which would provide new protections to workers seeking to organize, and urging Congress to pass the bill.

The PRO Act would put into action the strongest labor reforms in 80 years and improve the lives of hard-working Americans by:

- Holding corporations accountable when they violate workers’ rights.
- Ensuring that more workers are included under the National Labor Relations Act’s protections.
- Protecting collective action and removing constraints that prevent workers’ voices from being heard.

- Strengthening the right to negotiate and organize.
- Empowering workers to report abuses of their rights.

The PRO Act would protect the rights and livelihoods of essential workers all across the United States. From preventing the misclassification of essential workers as ‘independent contractors’ to eliminating barriers that workers face when trying to organize and increasing penalties for employers who violate workers’ rights – every provision in the PRO Act supports American workers.

Please help us pass the PRO Act by calling on your member of Congress and telling your representative that passing the PRO Act would empower hard-working Americans to improve their places of work and build better lives.

Thank you for all that you do to make our union better and stronger.



BOWL-A-THON



ATTENTION PART TIME MEMBERS! DID YOU KNOW?

NEW

Save 80% or more on prescriptions!



Your UFCW Local 1500 is bringing you an exclusive prescription plan with HUGE savings! If you're a part time member with a year or more of current service, and not currently receiving the Special PT or ACA PT benefit plans, you're eligible.

Rx Valet is 100% covered by UFCW Local 1500 and has NO COST for you! This plan is exclusive to UFCW and cannot be purchased outside of your union

Here's what this incredible discount plan provides.

- . 37 commonly prescribed drugs at no charge
- . Discounts of up to 80% on other medications
- . Your Rx Valet membership covers up to 8 family members
- . Accepted at over 65,000 pharmacies
- . Rx for Pets included with your membership

Register to Access Your Account

SCAN CODE



To Register & Access
your Account

You can also use the Rx Valet app by downloading it here:



Rx Valet also offers a Prescription Assistance Program (PAP) for many medications over \$200. If you are on one of these costly drugs, go to www.MyRxValet.com and chat with their Customer Care team to get the information you need. You could save hundreds, maybe thousands a year.

Remember, this plan is 100% covered by UFCW Local 1500 and has NO COST for you! This is just the latest way for UFCW Local 1500 to say THANK YOU to our part timers for your membership

If you would like to update your contact info, please send an email to info@ufcw1500.org

**Questions? Please call the Rx Valet at 1-855-798-2538 or
your UFCW Benefits Hotline at 844-808-8009**



In Memoriam

Local 1500 mourns the passing of the following members. To their families and friends, we extend our deepest sympathy. May they rest in peace.

Anthony, Johnny H.	Laino, Bonnie
Arnold, Geraldine	Langley, Alvin L.
Baglione, Anthony	Locasto, Judianne M
Barzelatto, Laurie A	Marroquin, Cesar A.
Bonsignore, Josephine	Meling, Sharann
Borsavage, Charles T.	Miller, Janet
Burack, Dorothea	Montanino, Rita
Cimino, Anthony	Murawski, Edwin
Cuomo, Deborah J	Passabile, Fred
Delponte, Francesca	Perez, Ruben
Dileo, Paul	Petitto, Ellen
Dombroski, Douglas	Portillo, Luis
Effron, Emily	Rabius, Andrew
Euvino, Frank	Ramirez, John
Fortuna, Nicholas	Robinson, Charles
Gallipani, Gloria T	Rodriguez, Edward
Hill, Paul	Skalocky, Michael S
Howard, Tina	Sneddon, David W.
Hsu, Abraham J	Vogt, Paul
Ioos, Carl M.	Walminski, Mona G.
Johnson, Roxanne	Zeibaq, Leon
Joiner, Tommie	Zingaro, Ada R.
Julme, Paul	



VISION SCREENING www.vscreening.com


To All Eligible Participants of Local 1500 U.F.C.W.

Our Vision Centers will provide a Comprehensive Eye Exam and Rx Lenses with **No Out-of-pocket** cost to you, if you stay within the Plan coverage.

Just contact one of the conveniently located optical centers listed on this brochure for an appointment. The center will verify your eligibility at the time of your visit.

It's that easy!
For a center near you, visit our web site at www.vscreening.com

Your eyesight is a precious gift. **Protect it!**



50 BONUS DOLLARS

For All Eligible Members

\$50.00

Off Second Pair of Eyeglasses (Maximum Retail Value of Frame: 125.00)

BONUS DOLLARS

www.vscreening.com

- Limit One (1) coupon per person
- Not valid with any other offers, cash or packages
- This offer excludes contact lenses

NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH. VALUE OF PARTICIPATING STORES ONLY.

NEED A WITHDRAWAL CARD?

Send an email to wcards@ufcw1500.org with the following content in the email:

- Name
- Store Number
- Company
- Last Day Worked

For further questions on withdrawal cards, please contact your union representative. You can also send a letter requesting a withdrawal card to:

UFCW Local 1500 Attn: Rosanne Wynne-Torres
425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY, 11590

VALUE OF MY UNION

MEMBERS ASSISTED BY LEGAL SERVICES YTD 2023:

201

REIMBURSEMENTS TO MEMBERS YTD 2023:

\$28,445.50

Prescription Drug Exclusions

Rx

We advise all members that the Trustees have specifically indicated that any drugs purchased in the following stores will **NOT** be reimbursed under the Local 1500 Welfare Fund Prescription Plan under any conditions:



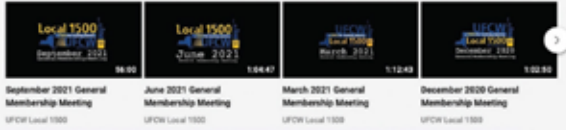
K-MART, C.V.S., WALMART, SAM'S, PRICE CHOPPER, COSTCO, BJ'S, (SAVON DRUGS, SUPER X & BROOKS DRUGS), WALGREENS, TARGET & HANNAFORD.

Bulletin Board

General Membership Meetings

General Membership Meetings ▶ PLAY ALL

A recap of our previous General Membership Meetings. Be sure to check out all your union news!



YOU CAN WATCH AN ARCHIVE OF OUR PAST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL. JUST CLICK ON THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING PLAYLIST OR SCAN THE QR CODE.



LOCAL 1500 RETIREES

The officers of UFCW Local 1500 extend their warmest congratulations to these new Retirees and urge them to join the Union's Retiree Club. Contact Terri Gorman, 516-214-1330 or Monique Suarez, 516-214-1333.

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Abdulhaqq, Hamida | Hatesaul, Christina | Peana, John |
| Adams, Robert | Haynes, Kelvin E | Pedersen, Ann C |
| Alperstein, Steven | Holzmann, John C | Perrotta, Timothy J |
| Amev, Timothy | Hunter, Rondy L | Piccarelli, Thomas J |
| Andree, Cynthia | Izaguirre, Laura L | Pirrello, Giacomo M |
| Argenio, Erniece L | Jaggarine, Marlin A | Polanco, Andres E |
| Baker, Bruce E. | Jolifils, Kenel | Raia, Juanita |
| Ballard, Doreen A | Kelly, John J | Reilly, Francis |
| Bautista, Alberto A | King, Deborah | Richman, Andrea M |
| Bonagura, Michelle T | Knapp, Carol | Rivas Plata, Carlos E |
| Brathwaite, Debra M | Knapp, Gerry | Rivas, Joan E |
| Brignolo, Donna M | Kropf, Elizabeth M | Rosario, Maria |
| Brown, Roberta | Kuntz, Kathleen A | Rutkoski, Marianne |
| Brown, Silvana | Lang, Nancy | Salazar, Lorenza |
| Bruckman, Robert E | Laurino, Rudolph J | Sanchez, Olga N |
| Busuttill, Monica F | Layne, Cleveland | Santoro, Nancy E |
| Caban, Joel | Leavitt, Dean M | Schaumburg, |
| Cabezas, Max J. | Leonard, Philip D | Christopher T. |
| Camirand, Mark | Levy, Alice B | Senise, Isabella |
| Canas, Juana E | Lipari, Barbara A | Seybert, Miriam |
| Carpenter, Keith | Longo, Kimberly S | Shah, Varsha A |
| Cascio, Salvatore M | Lorys, Barbara | Shammas, Peggy E |
| Castro, Raul A | Lukwski, Joanne | Sheepshad, |
| Cioffi, Andrew S | Makeofske, Michael E | Chanderwattie |
| Cosentino, Vincent | Maldonado, Luis G | Shine, Robert J |
| Cosgrove, Michael W. | Maldonado, Robert | Sierra, Angel |
| Cotugno, Angelo V | Mangar, Lionel | Simone, Phyllis |
| Cusumano, John | Mashburn, John M | Simpson, Lorraine |
| Davi, Benedetto | Mejia, Rafael | Sims, Sheila |
| DeJesus, Juana | Melendez, Rosalinda | Smith, Gerry |
| Denninger, Dora | Mendez Garcia, Luis | Soderstrom, Gary K |
| Deprimo, Susan M. | Mendoza, Betty | Solina, John |
| Desimone, Ruth K | Meyerson, Scott A | Sparacino, Kathy R |
| Donofrio, Carol L | Modica, Robert A | Starita, Carol |
| Elias, Paul | Molina, Peter | Thomas, Donna L |
| Fajardo, A. Juan | Montambo, Victoria | Thurston, Eileen |
| Ferreras, Silvio | Munir, Magid | Torres, Esther |
| Finnegan, Rosanne F | Nicolini, Lori A | Trim, Ian E |
| Floccari, Marion V | Noon, William F. | Tumbarello, Jerry |
| Fraser, Michael | O'Keefe, John R | Vasile, Florentina M |
| Fuoco, Carmela | Oliva, Leonore M | Vivanco, Luis M |
| Grant, Carl E | O'Reilly, Linda | Woods, Wade |
| Grauer, Conrad D | Pace, Vita | Yorke, Richard D |
| Hand, Josephine | Papke, Diane | Zelaya, Francisco |
| | | Zotinis, Deborah |



Check out our latest Member Spotlight Video



SCAN CODE



with Denny Gleason

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Wednesday, March 13, 2024



ALL MEETINGS START AT 7:00 P.M.

UFCW LOCAL 1500, FRANK MEEHAN HALL
425 MERRICK AVENUE, WESTBURY, NY 11590

Prizes Will Be Awarded!

FISH FOR A CAUSE

SHOW YOUR UNION PRIDE
OUR ANNUAL FISHING TRIP!

FRIDAY AUG. 25TH 2023 5PM TO 8PM
FISH ON @ YANKEE III
CAPTREE STATE PARK,
3500 OCEAN PKWY, BAY SHORE, NY 11706, NY

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
AUTISM SPEAKS AND THE
UFCW LOCAL 1500 CHARITY FUND

\$50.00 PER ADULT
\$25.00 CHILDREN
(12 & UNDER)

TICKETS INCLUDE: FOOD, DRINKS,
SNACKS, BAIT AND FISHING GEAR!



You may purchase your
tickets through venmo

venmo

UFCW1500.ORG @UFCW1500 INFO@UFCW1500.ORG

MORE INFO CONTACT: GUY ZIMBARDO @ 516-214-1311

STEVE ZEINER @ 516-214-1311



@UFCW1500



/UFCW1500



"For Memorial Day we recognize two of our members on the left Ed Maxwell, who served in the army. Ed's dedication to our country and his selfless commitment deserves our utmost appreciation. On the right, Keith Corona, proudly wearing his father's navy hat and showcasing the ship on which his father served. Keith's father's service had a profound impact on their family."



@UFCW1500

SCAN QR CODE TO WATCH
YOUTUBE CHANNEL



@UFCW1500



Any suggestions or comments for the Advocate?

Send us your feedback to
INFO@UFCW1500.ORG



FRANK MEEHAN HALL OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT LIST

516-214-1300 • 800-522-0456

General Office Hours, Pension, Welfare, Legal Services & Annuity, Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm.



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

1305 Newell, Rob - President
1305 Waddy, Aly - Secretary-Treasurer
1303 Waddy, Joseph - Executive Vice President/Recorder
1304 Santarpia, Paul - Director of Operations
1351 Wright, Michele - Office Manager
1305 Andrade, Stefanie - Exec. Assistant to the President

FIELD DIRECTOR

1356 Pasquale, Greg - Gpasquale@ufcw1500.org

ASSISTANT FIELD DIRECTORS

1353 Ecker, Rob - Recker@ufcw1500.org
1340 Scorzelli, Jay - Jscorzelli@ufcw1500.org

ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER

1329 Ellison-Bates, Arnetta - Abates@ufcw1500.org

DUES REFUND

1351 Wright, Michele - Mwright@ufcw1500.org

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

1334 Brijlall, David - Davidb@ufcw1500.org
1362 Byfield, Desmond - Dbyfield@ufcw1500.org
1371 Flores, Vilmarie - Vflores@ufcw1500.org
1317 Guardado, Jeff - Jguardado@ufcw1500.org
1346 Guardado, Juan - Juang@ufcw1500.org
1350 Kapogiannopoulos, George - Georgek@ufcw1500.org
1358 Mauleon, Rafael - Rmauleon@ufcw1500.org
1349 Walter, Fred Jr. - Fwalter@ufcw1500.org
1311 Zeiner, Steven - Szeiner@ufcw1500.org

DIRECT LINE 516-214-1300

MEMBERSHIP SERVICING REPRESENTATIVES

1343 Cruz, Israel - Icruz@ufcw1500.org
1322 Guelee, Gina - Gguelee@ufcw1500.org
1360 Lostumbo, Alicia - Alostumbo@ufcw1500.org

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

1374 Allen, Nicholas - Nallen@ufcw1500.org
Media & Communications Coordinator
1372 Thomas, Tarrick - Tthomas@ufcw1500.org

PENSION FUND

1330 Gorman, Terri - Tgorman@ufcw1500.org
1333 Suarez, Monique - Msuarez@ufcw1500.org

ANNUITY FUND

1314 Mcglone, Christine - Cmcglone@ufcw1500.org

MEDICAL - VISION - DENTAL - FORMS

1336 Merlos, Carla - Cmerlos@ufcw1500.org
1337 Sefcik, Michelle - Msefcik@ufcw1500.org

WITHDRAWAL CARDS

1328 Musco, Sara - Smusco@ufcw1500.org

WELFARE FUND BENEFITS

Associated Administrators, LLC 855-266-1500

LEGAL SERVICE FUND

1310 Punzo, Wendy - Wpunzo@ufcw1500.org

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

1310 Punzo, Wendy - Wpunzo@ufcw1500.org

CHECK US OUT
@UFCW1500.org

MY UNION HAS VALUE

EMAIL US AT
INFO@UFCW1500.org