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IBEW Local Union 21 • CWA Local 4250



Illinois & NW Indiana 2009 AT&T Mobilization & Bargaining News

Friday, April 3, 2009

CWA Contracts Expire at Midnight Tomorrow!

CWA has several contracts with AT&T that expire at midnight on Saturday, April 4, 2009. Late today, the Communications Workers of America District 4 website reports that CWA's Executive Board has voted to authorize CWA Union President Larry Cohen to call a strike at any or all AT&T companies where labor agreements have expired—including AT&T Midwest (the former Ameritech states).

CWA negotiators have been in bargaining since February 24th to conclude new contracts covering 20,000 AT&T workers in the five Midwest states of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin, and some 125,000 workers nationwide.

Five of CWA's six agreements with AT&T companies expire this Saturday at midnight. That list includes AT&T Midwest, AT&T East, AT&T Southwest, AT&T West and AT&T Legacy. The contract for AT&T Southeast expires at midnight, August 6, 2009.

CWA Union negotiators report that with less than two days before the deadline, AT&T had not yet addressed key issues of employment security, benefits, pensions and living standards. CWA said today that so far, AT&T has been unwilling to take major giveback demands off the bargaining table, answer basic questions about their proposals, or come to terms with issues of respect and justice for all employees in every job title.

CWA picket lines might be established in front of AT&T locations where IBEW Local 21 members work.



IBEW Local 21 supports the CWA and its bargaining goals. We stand in solidarity with them. Their fight is our fight!



www.ibew21.org

www.cwalocal4250.org

SET TO TALK – READY TO WALK



CWA Picket Lines? Know Your Rights!

We remind all IBEW Local 21 members that Article 5.03 of our contract states that the no-strike clause

"IS NOT INTENDED TO PROHIBIT EMPLOYEES FROM HONORING A PICKET LINE PROVIDED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OR MAINTENANCE OF SAID PICKET LINE IS NOT A VIOLATION OF ANY LAW."

Know your rights:

- **The National Labor Relations Act protects your right to honor a lawful picket line.**
- **You have the right NOT to cross a lawful picket line and NOT to work behind a lawful picket line.**

Don't T-10!

We are asking that all members refrain from accepting any T-10 or temporary supervisor assignments. Anyone accepting a T-10 assignment allows AT&T to free up a manager in preparation for a CWA or IBEW strike – don't do it! We will keep you updated on the status of CWA's negotiations. IBEW Local 21's negotiations are tentatively set to begin around the first week of May, 2009.

Stay Informed!

Brothers and Sisters, make sure to get union news from the union, not from AT&T. We are aware that AT&T is stooping to new labor-relations lows, soliciting employees to sign up for Core Bargaining Updates via Text Message, For Free. Don't fall for the corporate brainwash crap. The same marble lined corporate boardroom that wants you to give, give, give in bargaining, will not, we repeat, will not communicate CORE bargaining news on the up and up. They are trying to convince you to concede before our first proposals even cross

the table. Don't buy it. Don't free it. Ignore AT&T's bargaining communications – that's an action that sends a strong message.

Sign Up For Union Text Messages

If you haven't done it yet you can sign up to have IBEW Local 21 Urgent News text messages sent to your personal cell phone or mobile device. All you have to do is send a new text message from your personal cell or mobile (do not use a company issued phone) to: 69866. Include in the body of the message: ibew21.