



January 7, 2010

### Disputes over AT&T Retiree Health Care Continue to Grow

**The latest dispute surrounding retiree health care benefits** deals with co-pay amounts. During bargaining, our Union's bargaining team understood insurance co-pays would remain the same. If you retired between 1/1/93 and 4/3/04 your co pay should be \$30. If you retired after 4/4/04, your co-pay should be \$20. AT&T management maintains all co-pays are \$30 regardless of when you retired.

**As reported in the December 16, 2009 IBEW Local 21 Retiree update** our Union is at odds with AT&T over other items we negotiated in the new retiree health care benefits in 2009 bargaining:

*...Debit cards should have been issued to every pre-Medicare retiree to access the funds in each retiree's HRA. AT&T claims they did not agree to issue debit cards and instead, want retirees to pay for services, and mail in the respective receipts...*

*...All pre-Medicare retirees should have access to Vision Care at AT&T's group rate. AT&T is claiming that during 2009 contract talks, they only agreed that Vision Care would be offered to those that were currently receiving Vision Care through COBRA and to future retirees...*

Read the entire 12/16/09 IBEW Local 21 AT&T Backtracks on Retiree Benefits update by clicking [here](#).

**Our Union attempted to resolve these differences with AT&T Human Resources. On Monday, January 4th, AT&T denied our claims!**

Our Union's bargaining team believes AT&T has engaged in bad faith bargaining. We will be consulting with our attorney's to explore all legal means available.

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### Insurance Cards

**All retirees should have an insurance card.** However, some retirees still have not received their new 2010 Blue Cross/Blue Shield or United Health Care insurance card. Other retirees who changed providers from UHC to BC/BS PPO received the wrong card.

If you switched providers make sure your card has the correct provider listed. If you

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haven't received yours or it has the wrong provider call Hewitt at 1-877-722-0020 to get your insurance card.

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### **Retiree Clubs**

**In 2009, Larry Moeller met with many retirees** and stressed retirees need to stay organized by establishing new IBEW Local Union 21 retiree clubs, or by joining ones already accredited. **The actions taken by AT&T reinforce the need for all retirees to remain active.**

Information on how to start a retiree club is available on the Local 21 webpage [www.ibew21.org](http://www.ibew21.org) or by calling Larry at (630) 432-3836.

### **Solidarity!**

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