



Local 743

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CONTRACT 2024

UNION STRONG

“UNITED WE BARGAIN, DIVIDED WE BEG”

Contract Negotiations Begin



Left to right: LL743 Committee Members: Rec. Sec. Karen Blanchard, LL743 Trustee Paul Duff, Shop Committee Carey St. Martin, District 26 Business Rep Tony Walter, District 26 Office Manager Eleanor Getchell, District 26 DBR and Chief Union Negotiator Jeff Santini, LL743 President Travis Williams, IMAW Aerospace Coordinator, Denise Heath, LL743 Vice President Bob MacLean, Shop Committee Renee MacLean, Sec. Treas. Vic Ghidoni. Back Row: IAFF-88 President Jesse Rickis, District 26 Business Rep Dianna Koch, District 26 Business Rep Al Soares, LL700 President Wayne McCarthy, LL1746 President Howie Huestis. Not Pictured: IMAW Aerospace Coordinator William Sullivan.

Our 2024 contract talks began on Wednesday April 17th at the Sheraton Monarch Hotel in Springfield MA. Chief Union Negotiator Jeff Santini made an opening statement to the group, which included your committee and the company side of the table. Jeff started by thanking everyone for being there. He reiterated how fast three years went by. Jeff let the company know how much preparation the union committee has done to get ready for these negotiations. He reminded everyone that there will be many difficult issues to resolve during these contract talks. Our members are looking for wage improvements, medical plan, pension and vacation improvements as well as sick/personal time increases. As always, job security is of high concern to our members.

HR Director and Chief Negotiator for the company, Alpa Patel was next to speak. She talked of the stress and hard discussions that are involved in negotiations. She mentioned how unprecedented the pandemic was and how it affected us all. She said these operational realities that the company is dealing with will set the landscape for the company's proposals. She reminded all that transparency and openness are key in this process.

Next up was VP and General Manager Ryan Hudson who gave a “State of the Business” report to the group. Hudson was glad to report that people are flying domestically again after the pandemic while international travel is still lagging a bit. Ryan gave a quick history of RTX and Collins Aerospace. He also talked of the investments being made right here in Windsor Locks by the company.

The union passed our proposals to the company and we are ready to fight for what our members want and deserve! We will fight for a contract we can recommend to our members. Tomorrow, we meet again at 9:00 am. Stay tuned.....