

IMPORTANCE OF MIDTERM ELECTIONS

A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL PRESIDENT JAMES P. HOFFA

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Teamsters everywhere should vote for the candidate or candidates who are best for working families. If you haven't already, start educating yourself on who is running for office and whether your union has endorsed a candidate.

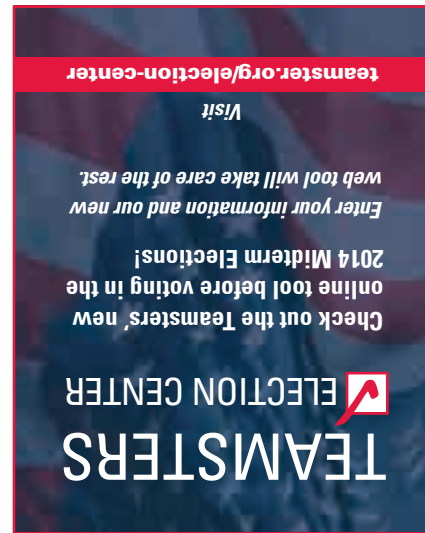
Four years ago, hardworking Americans learned firsthand the consequences of staying home instead of supporting politicians who value their contributions to our nation. Since then, we've increasingly seen the views of billionaire businessmen like the Koch brothers take priority over those of the middle class. At a time when many workers continue to struggle to support their families, we can't afford to sit this election out. So the Teamsters are ramping up our efforts to elect candidates who will listen to the rest of us.

There is no shortage of reasons for Teamsters to care about the midterm elections in November, but here are a few big ones: right-to-work legislation, the minimum wage, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)—an unfair trade deal in the vein of NAFTA.

This year, the Teamsters Union has also started an online Election Action Center at www.teamster.org/election-center.



center. On the site, you can find out how to register in your state, as well as access the union's Congressional Voting Scorecard. As Election Day nears, we'll be putting more information and resources on the page.



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TANKHAUL News

James P. Hoffa, General President | Ken Hall, General Secretary-Treasurer | Keith Gleason, Division Director



Growing the Tankhaul Division

New Teamster Tankhaulers in Mass., Pa. and Del.

Two new bargaining units have joined the ranks of the Teamsters Tankhaul Division, growing not only the Division but the power of those already members of the union.

"Organizing and building Teamster power is front and center in the Tankhaul Division right now," said Keith Gleason, Director of the Tankhaul Division and President of Local 627 in Peoria, Ill. "When we organize, all our members benefit. When we build density in an industry, we are in a better position with the employers to negotiate the strongest contracts."

Local 25 in Boston recently organized a group of 17 tankhaul workers who deliver air cylinders to commercial entities in the area.

The new Teamsters work for Airgas East and approached Local 25 a few months ago. The local already represents another Airgas bargaining unit in the area and those drivers frequently run into the nonunion workers.

"The drivers talk to each other, and when the company started taking things away from the nonunion workers, they saw an opportunity to come together," said Robert Fabrizio, a Local 25 business agent. "Their overall treatment wasn't great, they had no job security as at-will employees. They wanted the Teamsters to represent them."

Local 25 is currently in negotiations for a contract for these new tankhaul Teamsters.

Praxair

On July 11, drivers at Praxair in Morrisville, Pa. and in Wilmington, Del. voted 22-8 to join Local 107 in Philadelphia. There are 31 drivers in the bargaining unit.

"For far too long these drivers have worked without having a strong voice or the respect they deserve, but that will change now that they have formed their union with the Teamsters," said Bill Hamilton, President of Local 107. "We will work hard to negotiate a strong first contract that addresses their issues."

The workers remained united despite a vicious anti-worker, anti-union campaign waged by the employer. In fact, one of the committee members was fired midway through the campaign. Local 107 won his job back with eight days' worth of back pay and benefits.

"The key was educating the workers about the union busters' lies," said Chris Buschmeier, organizer for Local 107. "For example, we distributed a flier that told the workers how much the company spent on union busters several years ago. We also countered the lies about their pensions."

Workers are also seeking an end to favoritism and they want consistent rules.

"Right now the rules change every day," Buschmeier said. "The drivers also want fair pay, especially given the hazardous gases they must handle daily."

BUILDING TEAMSTER POWER

As Director of the Tankhaul Division and President of Local 627 in Illinois, I know how important it is to provide the best representation possible to our members.

Workers need to know the union is fighting to protect their livelihoods every day by making sure the employers are following the contracts. This also means that we must educate our members so that they too can fight to defend their rights at work. We will continue to make representation a priority within the Division and we will make sure all the tankhaul locals have the resources to do this.

But there is another important area which we must focus on: growing our union.

Organizing and building Teamster power needs to also be front and center. By organizing more members, all our members benefit. When we build density in an industry, we are in a better position with the employers to negotiate the strongest contracts.

Organizing is not easy. It takes tremendous resources and energy. But we must make organizing a priority if we are to survive as a union and have the necessary power to take on corporate America.

We cannot do it alone. We need all the local unions, Joint Councils and you—our members—to help out when we call for help. Together is the only way we will succeed.

This is about growing strength now and in the generations to come.

New Rule for National Registry



The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) recently issued a rule that establishes a National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners (National Registry). Health care professionals who are on the National Registry are the only individuals who are permitted to perform physical qualification examinations for commercial truck and bus drivers who operate commercial motor vehicles (CMV) in interstate commerce. The health care professionals who are on the National Registry must first successfully complete training and testing on physical qualification standards and guidelines as set forth by the FMCSA.

Background Information

- The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) conducted crash investigations and determined that some crashes that resulted in fatalities and serious injuries were caused by drivers who had disqualifying medical conditions. To address this issue, the NTSB recommended that the FMCSA raise the standards for health care professionals who perform the medical examinations.
- In response to the NTSB recommendation and a directive from the Congress, the FMCSA conducted rulemaking that resulted in a final rule that accomplished the following:
 - o Established a National Registry; and
 - o Developed training, testing, and continuing education requirements for healthcare professional who perform the physical examinations for commercial drivers who are involved in interstate commerce.

Impact on Interstate CMV Drivers

- If your medical certificate expires on or after May 21, 2014, you must obtain a physical examination from a medical examiner who is listed on the National Registry.
- Employers are still required to ensure that all drivers who operate CMVs on their behalf are medically qualified. As was the case prior to the effective date of this rule, those employers may require drivers to be examined by medical examiners that are acceptable to the employer.

To find an approved medical examiner in your area, use the following link: <http://nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov>. To learn more, or if you have any questions please contact the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Safety and Health Department at phone: 202.624.6960 or email: ibtsafety@teamster.org.

ELECTION DAY MOTIVATES TEAMSTERS



STAY CONNECTED

Visit teamster.org/election-center, the union's new online tool, for the Teamsters Congressional Voting Scorecard and other features. For more information about DRIVE, the union's political action committee, visit teamster.org/content/about-drive.

GETTING OUT THE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4

The November mid-term elections are right around the corner, and the Teamsters are gearing up to help elect candidates to Congress and in state capitals that put workers' interests ahead of those of big business.

Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa and Secretary-Treasurer Ken Hall are visiting states across the country in an effort to get members out to vote. And they will use the 2010 election cycle as an example of what can happen to workers when they don't show up at the polls.

"Four years ago, hardworking Americans learned firsthand the consequences of staying home instead of supporting politicians who value their contributions to our nation," Hoffa said. "Since then, we've increasingly seen the views of billionaire businessmen like the Koch brothers take priority over those of the middle class. At a time when many workers continue to struggle to support their families, we can't afford to sit this election out. So the Teamsters are ramping up our efforts to elect candidates who will listen to the rest of us."

Teamster leaders and members across the country are already preparing to make sure every Teamster knows the issues, who stands with them and what is at stake in this election. And the level of activity will continue to escalate right up until the election.

Hundreds of Teamster members will be visiting their fellow members at their worksites to discuss the election and the issues. The Teamsters Union has the most aggressive worksite communication programs in organized labor, with voter registration taking on a more important role.

There are many reasons for Teamsters to be motivated to vote this November. They may not be the issues that

get highlighted on the evening news, but they are matters that could affect workers' wallets when it comes to pay and job security. Issues like right to work, the minimum wage, worker misclassification and the Trans-Pacific Partnership will all come before the next congress.

On Election Day, 36 states will hold gubernatorial elections. In the United States Senate, 33 seats are being contested. Wherever there is an important election for working families, the Teamsters Union will be there.

Weekly News for Working Families



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