



# INSIDER NEWSLETTER

Association of Sanitation Districts Employees  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Brothers and Sisters, we now face an unprecedented crisis, something neither I nor any of us have ever experienced. COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, has become a global pandemic and has significantly affected every aspect of our lives, in particular, our day-to-day work activities. NOTHING is the same now and may not be for quite some time. You undoubtedly have seen the daily updates on the Intranet or the unending news stream. Our concern is the safety of our Brothers and Sisters, as well as their financial security. Your union representatives have been in contact with Management for the past few weeks regarding how best to protect the Districts' employees. While a number of actions have already been taken, many of you may still have concerns. We are all, employees and Management alike, in uncharted waters and not everything may be satisfactorily addressed right away, such as who can or can't work remotely. Rest assured, we will continue to consult with Management on what can best serve both the agency and its staff. Conditions at work will inevitably continue to evolve. What we CAN do is keep ourselves and loved ones safe, and give each other whatever support we can.

## WORK AT HOME

Employees who are able to work remotely are being provided the opportunity to do so in an effort to stem the spread of COVID-19. Unfortunately, many jobs, such as treatment and power plant supervisors and operators and lab technicians, cannot be performed at home. We will continue to push HR in order to maximize the amount of work-at-home employees. On your part, you should be checking with your supervisor to see if you can use Citrix and perform job duties at home.

## RETROACTIVE COLAS

I'm sure one thing that would make this pandemic a little easier to survive would be to get our retroactive COLA pay returned to us. Supervisory and Professional Supervisory employees had their retroactive pay included in their February and March 10 paychecks. According to the Payroll Supervisor, "payroll will be processed as usual on April 10 for salaries, longevity, overtime, etc. Retroactive COLAs are still being worked on, and should be on schedule for April 10 and May 10 for the Professional Unit. If things go extremely well, it could all occur on April 10." Please keep in mind that our Payroll Section is staffed with human beings who may themselves unexpectedly succumb to the current viral affliction.

## OUR NEW WEBSITE

Thanks to Union Secretary, David Rothbart, for getting our Local 18 website up and running. It will allow you to get not only information and news about our Sanitation Districts' union activities, but for AFSCME nationally. To access, go to: <https://www.afscme36.org/local-18-los-angeles-county-sanitation-districts>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY

Our Vice-President, Glen Acosta, has unfortunately had to step down from his post for personal reasons. We will be taking nominations for this position as soon as feasible, given the situation, so please consider who you would like to nominate or if you would like to take on this position yourself. Future announcements will be forthcoming.

March 2020 Issue

### Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS

**President**

Earle Hartling, Professional Unit

**Vice President**

Vacant

**Secretary**

David Rothbart, Prof. Supervisory Unit

**Treasurer**

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#### UNIT DIRECTORS

Darrell Hatch, Prof. Supervisory Unit

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Greg Agee, Professional Unit

Jose Mendoza, Technical Support Unit

Brenda Wilcox, White Collar Unit

David De Vase, Energy Recovery Unit

#### AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

Basil Hewitt, Prof. Supervisory Unit

Dwain Tucker, Professional Unit

Rebecca Urac, Technical Support Unit

#### TERMS OF OFFICE & ELECTIONS

Professional Supervisory, Technical Support and Energy Recovery Unit Directors and two At-Large Director positions will be up for election in December 2020.