

# AFSCME IN ACTION





Pictured: AFSCME members rallying for proper safety measures and accountability from state leaders following the death of Agent Davis Martinez.

MESSAGE FROM AFSCME MARYLAND PRES. PATRICK MORAN

#### Fighting for Our Lives & Remembering Agent Davis Martinez

On Friday, May 31, we lost one of our union brothers, Agent Davis Martinez. I've heard from everyone he worked with that he was a beloved colleague and mentor, and it pains me that our community and our union has lost someone as dedicated and hardworking as Brother Martinez was.

What is deeply upsetting is how preventable this tragedy was. For more than a year, Local 3661 brought up health and safety concerns at meeting after meeting with leaders from the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. Our concerns were dismissed, and because of the agency's inaction, one of our brothers has fallen.

As we look towards the coming weeks and months, we will not let Agent Martinez be forgotten. We have raised hell, suspended home visits, forced a change in leadership for DPP, and more. And no matter where we work, let us remember Agent Martinez's legacy by staying organized, holding management accountable, and standing up for what we deserve. Because what we deserve is to be safe while on the job — nothing less.



#### Historic Tentative Agreement Reached with University System of Maryland (USM)

We've reached a tentative agreement with the University System of Maryland! For the first time in history, we have a unified union contract for the entire system, raising the bar for workers at all of the campuses across the university system.

Now, we must ratify this agreement in order for it to go into effect. If you work for a school that is part of the USM, you can find more information about voting and highlights from the tentative agreement here: **bit.ly/usa-ta-summary** 

Thank you to everyone who helped make this milestone possible. It's been a nearly 2 year fight, but it's clear that when we join together, we can win what we deserve because we're the ones who keep our campuses running!

View the voting schedule at: afscmemd.org/usmta

- AFSCME Maryland Council 3 President Patrick Moran

To read a full overview of what we've won in the USM tentative agreement as well as a list of voting times and locations, visit:

bit.ly/usm-ta-summary





#### **AFSCME** Members in Action

- In June, AFSCME Local 3655 held a successful AFSCME Day at the Glen Burnie Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA). It was a great time for members old and new, and we shared important information about upcoming raises that many State employees began to see on July 1.
- AFSCME International Secretary-Treasurer Elissa McBride stopped by the Baltimore Museum of Industry this month to see their new Collective Action exhibit, which features quotes, perspectives, and stories from a number of AFSCME members. The exhibit runs through 2025, so we highly recommend checking it out!
- Congratulations to our most recent cohort of stewards who attended our Southern Region Steward Training in mid-June! Thanks for stepping up to protect our workplace rights and our union contracts.
- In early June, AFSCME Local 631 Pres. Wynton Johnson attended the National Association of State Highway and Transportation Unions (NASHTU) Conference in Washington D.C. He advocated for move over laws, transportation worker safety, improved staff retention and recruitment, & more!



Pictured: Our newest Southern Region Stewards!

#### **Upcoming Events**

Labor Night at the Nats Friday, July 5 at 6:45 PM Nationals Park, Washinton, DC

University System of Maryland (USM) Ratification Voting

Monday, July 8 - Thursday, July 18 View the voting schedule at: afscmemd.org/usmta

Learn more at: www.afscmemd.org/afscme-3/ calendar-events

## State supervisors in Unit S are VOTING YES for AFSCME

Now is the time to encourage any state supervisors you know in our state agencies to VOTE YES for our AFSCME Maryland Supervisors Union if they have not done so already. We can't begin to negotiate a union contract until a majority of state supervisors sign AFSCME'S dual membership/ vote "yes" form!



Scan the QR code to join the supervisors union & vote YES!

### **Member Spotlight: Clint Stevens**

For nearly 10 years, AFSCME Local 1459 Vice President Clint Stevens has worked as a high voltage electrician at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). It's his job to maintain all of the electrical aspects of the campus and to ensure that everything is safe and functioning smoothly.

"I first got involved in my union because I wanted to learn more about my union contract and to make sure I knew my rights at work," says Clint. That led to becoming a shop steward, winning cases for those he was representing, and more recently, tackling key safety issues on campus.

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Pictured: Clint Stevens

For years, UMBC issued highly flammable polyester uniforms to its staff, a clear violation of OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) standards. Together, Clint and his coworkers pressured UMBC management to correct their uniforms. "UMBC kept refusing to acknowledge or do something, but enough of us came together to call out this safety issue. We fought hard and pulled out all of the OSHA codes that they were violating, and in the end, they had no valid arguments or excuses," says Clint.

When it comes to raising the bar across the entire University System of Maryland (USM), Clint has been at the bargaining table for nearly two years advocating for the safe workplaces that he and his coworkers deserve. "One of the most exciting things that stands out to me in our new tentative agreement is the increase in on-call pay. I'm also proud of the pay increases that we've won across the board, and I think it's huge what we did to bring up the minimum wage," says Clint. "I hope people realize that everything we've negotiated in this contract isn't just for me or a few people. This is for every employee in every school covered by this agreement. And I hope people take away from this that we have to use our voices. The more people who speak up, the more we can go to bat. And the more noise we make, the louder and stronger we are."

AFSCME Maryland www.afscmemd.org



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