



TWU LOCAL 100 NEWS

Station Division

August 2010

Members Turn Out for Friday the 13th Layoffs

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These layoffs are bad for service, bad for safety, and do next to nothing for the MTA's financial woes. In effect, Walder has taken 900 hostages in hopes of forcing the contract open and getting long-term givebacks.



Solidarity Fund Passes: Laid Off Members Will Receive Help on Medical

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In a vote that concluded on Thursday August 12, TWU Local 100 members voted in favor of the Solidarity Fund, a \$5 per week assessment to provide medical coverage to the approximately 900 union workers who have been laid off by the MTA. The final tally was 3,297-3,233. In Stations the vote tally was 492 **yes** and 315 **no** -- a 61 percent majority for helping our laid-off brothers and sisters. Thank You to all members who participated.

Local 100 President John Samuelsen said:

"Thank you brother and sister Local 100 members for passing the ballot initiative to

create the Local 100 Solidarity Fund for our laid off co-workers. The fund will allow us to do something substantive for these members by helping them pay for their continuing medical coverage. It shows that transit workers and Local 100 truly are a family that will step up and take care of its own in times of crisis. We will now redouble our efforts moving forward to accelerate their reemployment with New York City Transit and secure new sources of funding for public transportation in Washington and Albany so we never have to go down this road again."



It's Important to Be a Member in Good Standing

The Solidarity fund vote points out the importance of paying your dues, so you are a member in good standing. The TWU International Constitution (our guideline as a Union) that only those current in their dues can vote, (current means without any balance of dues owed) so staying current, gives you a voice in the direction your Union will go. Paying dues now is only part of being current: any dues balance that is owed, prevents a member from being current. When you vote you have a say, when you don't vote, you are letting others decide your future. Whether you supported this Solidarity fund referendum or not does not matter, the main point is

that a member has the ability to voice their concerns and opinions, and that can only come from voting and being a member in good standing. There will be other votes coming down the pike, like the next contract, that you will want to have a say in. So the answer is simple: get current with your dues and participate fully in your future.

CTA Pick Coming Soon

The CTA pick is overdue, but it was necessitated by the many necessary revisions demanded by Local 100 CTA officers. We wanted the revisions because of excess workloads on certain jobs presented by the MTA. With our CTAs already overworked, your Union reps could not let this pass. We have to have an extra list. Contrary to rumors, this pick is closer as a whole to our picks 3 or 4 picks ago than to recent ones. CTAs should also note that RTO facility jobs are back after not being on the pick sheets for a few picks. This was due to a grievance put in by CTA vice-chair Joe Bermudez. The RTO facility jobs are in the contract but were allowed to disappear, until your Union stepped in. The pick should be ready about the last week in August or first week in September. We would like to thank the many CTAs who took advantage of our offer to come look at the books with us for their invaluable help. These members proved once again that NO-ONE knows the CTA job like the people who work it every day.

WORK RULE



CTA's . . . It is important to remember that CTAs are not police escorts or station inspectors. CTAs have a hard enough job as it is. According to MTA memos & policy specifically Bulletin no. 71-09:0. **"Supervisors are responsible for inspecting all stations in their zones."** **"...all unstaffed control areas must be inspected at least once within a 24-hr time period."**

Inspections are the sole job of supervision. Checking talk-backs are a part of doing a station inspection. This means that CTAs should not check talk back intercoms at any time, especially when the side of the station is unmanned (booth closed). It is clearly MTA policy that this is a supervisor's job.

Also it is important to note that CTAs are not police escorts either. If a supervisor asks you to take money from one booth to another, respectfully decline to do it. It is a safety issue-YOUR SAFETY. Tell your supervisor that you do not feel safe doing it. Additionally, if booths in your

station are Part-time booths, supervision, not CTAs are supposed to be escorts. If money is involved, Transit Police should be present.

CTAs are also reminded to keep track of where and how many times your supervisor "pulls" you. Supervision cannot "pull" any CTA to the same location more than 2 times a week. Otherwise it would be considered a schedule change and as stated in the Contract (section 3.8 I 1k) *"The Union shall be notified of any changes Cleaner's work schedule before they are put into effect."* This means that continual "pulling" of CTAs to the same location violates the contract.

Station Agents . . . Station Agents should not do customer service work at MVMs in locations where booths have been closed, without either having access to the booth or the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE). That PPE would be at the very least an orange vest and a fully charged, working, two-way radio. This is a safety issue, plain and simple and should be treated as such by MTA management and all Union members.

This reminder is not an okay to refuse work or orders by supervision but an informational directive. If you are ordered to do any work you feel is unsafe, like doing MVM customer service at an unmanned control area without proper PPE, upon arriving at the location immediately ask your supervisor for a safety resolution form and fill it out. Contact your Union rep and we will back you up.

Supply Logistics . . . Check your forklifts thoroughly for any defects and safety violations. Keep your blades down. When disposing of boxes, break them down before disposal. Stack your pallets properly and make sure to properly dispose of broken pallets. It's all about safety. In trucks, make sure everyone

does a proper inspection of their vehicles before going out on the road. Make sure you have an adequate amount of pallets in your truck. Do not over stack your pallets. Safety should be our first and primary concern always.

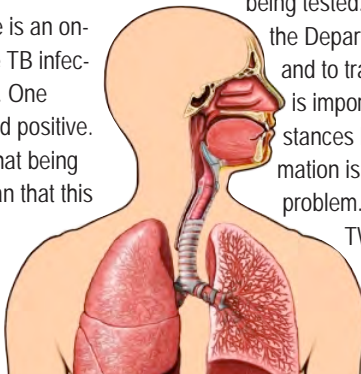
Special Notice: beginning in September 2010 there will be monthly Union shop gates at rotating S&L locations. These shop gates will be specifically designed to answer questions and address concerns of S&L members. There will be a notice posted at these locations to make members aware of the shop gate schedule ahead of time. Also be aware that monthly Station Department meetings are on the 4th Thursday of each month at 80 West End Ave at 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. At these meetings special section meetings are held with your S & L section officers.

Collecting Agents . . . The most important thing to stress is the proper safeguarding of all your work equipment, most important of all, your weapon. It may sound like something that should be common knowledge but as licensed weapon carriers your responsibility is huge and vital to your successful employment. Always know where your weapon is. Safeguard it to the best of your ability and always exercise the utmost caution in its handling and safekeeping.

Special Notice: beginning in September 2010 there will be monthly Union shop gates at CRF. These shop gates will be specifically designed to answer questions and address concerns of members working at CRF. There will be a notice posted at this location to make members aware of the shop gate schedule in advance. Also be aware that monthly Station Department meetings are on the 4th Thursday on each month at 80 West End Ave at 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. At these meetings special section meetings are held with your C/A section officers.

Report of TB at Quay St. Depot

At the time of this writing there is an ongoing investigation of possible TB infections at the Quay street depot. One Supervisor has been confirmed positive. It is important to understand that being tested positive does NOT mean that this is a TB outbreak. There are 2 kinds of TB: latent and active, they are both detected by a positive result. Latent TB cannot be transmitted from



one person to another and is very treatable. Active TB is the dangerous one; it can be spread to others, but is also treatable. Currently, all parties involved (TWU members and Supervision) are being tested. The area will be evaluated by the Department of Health for contamination and to track the virus, if one is detected. It is important to remember that in instances like this, panic as well as misinformation is almost as great an enemy as the problem. Be assured Station officers and

TWU safety reps are handling this situation with the highest of priorities. The health and safety of our members is our utmost concern.

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Martin Luther King Jr.

