



Getting What We Need!

By Lynwood Whichard
Vice President



These past two months have been challenging to say the least. The Coronavirus pandemic has hit our membership and our union very hard. But both the membership and the leadership have battled through it all. We have shown the entire City, State and nation what New York City transit workers are made of – and that, brothers and sisters – is some tough stuff.

I, along with President Tony Utano, and our leadership team in Stations, have been working hard to make our workplace safer by instituting new protocols – like cashless transactions in the booths – and by the acquisition of personal protective equipment, including masks and shields, that may very well become a daily part of our lives in transit even after the Coronavirus is defeated. While some departments were afforded 7-days-on and 7-days-off schedules, Stations Department maintained their essential workers status and we are deserving of having options to protect ourselves. All members will still have access to N95 mask at 2 per week. Members are not excluded from requesting

surgical mask also. The new blue mask (in photo) was distributed to stations department first by management after we put up a continuous fight. Although the CDC recommendations are evolving, we put up a vigorous fight to safeguard our members with additional protections.

Face Shields

We have also negotiated with some private companies to give out face shields. We will be in every borough distributing them in the near future. This added protection will be given to every section in Station department. We will continue to fight for our members.



Field Visits Continue

During this pandemic, I've seen many of you in the field. I wanted to per-

sonally take the time to be with the team to distribute the surgical masks. We felt that we needed to expedite supplies knowing that the members needed an immediate response. We've made the adjustment in operations to get things done. Please call for any supplies you may need, Never enter a location without the required Personal Protective Equipment including disinfectant and sanitizer for the service booths.

Division Chair Kelley Stricken With the Virus

Division Chair Robert Kelley has been battling the Coronavirus for the better part of a month. His illness has left a tremendous void in the department, not only because of his work ethic, and energy in fighting for the membership, but simply because he is a tremendous person, and a good friend. We all miss his presence. I am proud of the way the team has rallied around one another to insure that the our members are properly represented in Robert's absence. I also want to thank the membership for their outpouring of support and well wishes for Brother Kelley.



Remembering Our Fallen Brothers and Sisters

On a sad note, our members in Stations have paid a heavy price during this pandemic. We have lost 12 Brother and Sister Local 100 members from Stations to the virus. Across all divisions in our union, the virus has taken 72 Brothers and

Sisters from our rank-and-file. In Stations, our union team is going to the homes of our lost to deliver our personal condolences; to discuss the many important benefits the union has secured for the families, and to deliver a bereavement package. We hope this will bring comfort in their time of grief. We will continue this process until we have reached every family.