



The News Letter

March 2019



**International
Brotherhood
of
Electrical
Workers
LOCAL UNION
769**

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY**
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-vacant-

DirectTV UNIT

CHAIRMAN
SCOTT COONS
VICE CHAIRMAN
PETE MCLEOD
RECORDER
PAUL TERCERO

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**March 3rd Sunday
AT THE UNION HALL:**

9:30 A.M.
Executive Board Meets
10:00 A.M.
Examining Board Meets
12:00 Noon



REGULAR UNION MEETING

March 4th — Monday—7:00 P.M.

**DIRECTV Union Meeting in Gilbert @ The
Union Hall.**

March 7th—Thursday—7:00 P.M.

**Mohave Unit Meeting in Kingman @ The La
Quinta Inn.**

Be sure to contact The Hall
whenever you have changes
in your contact or beneficiary
information.



UniSource Negotiations

We are currently scheduled to begin collectively
bargaining a re-negotiated Agreement with
UniSource Electric (Mohave County) on March
6th with additional dates blocked out as needed.



"We're all out of safety goggles. Management
is recommending that you close your eyes."

Interested in receiving The Newsletter
via e-mail? Send
your current e-
mail so that we
can keep in touch.



(jeff@ibew769.com)



"We need more cuts by attrition. Cancel
the CPR workshop."

MEMBERS INFORMATION

New Members

**A—Journeyman Lineman—Joe
Lopez; Groundman—Benjamin
Hulse, Gerado Solis; Street Light
Tech—Idijdjan Tucker; Mechanic—
Orlando Delgado.**

I.B.E.W. SERVICE PINS

The following members will be
recognized for March meetings:

-CONGRATULATIONS-

**Active: 35 years—Scott Bean, Mark
Monzingo; 20 years—Louie Kuniski,
Rocky Vindiola; 15 years—Jeff Bala-
gna, Frank Christensen, Timothy Da-
vis, Dean Denk, Steve Gall, James
Hayes, Antonio Medina, Steve Oloier,
William Weigele; 5 years—Garth
Johnson.**

**Mohave Unit: 15 years—John Fens-
ke, June Metzger, Debra Robinson,
Duane Smith; 5 years—Halley
McCluskey.**

We are currently on Death Benefit #245

- DISPATCH -

The books are as follows:

Journeyman Lineman:	Book 1 — 0 Book 2 — 4 Book 3 — 0 Book 4 — 0
Operators:	Book 1 — 2 Book 2 — 6 Book 3 — 1 Book 4 — 1
Mechanics:	Book 1 — 1 Book 2 — 0 Book 3 — 0 Book 4 — 0
Groundmen:	Book 1 — 2 Book 2 — 5 Book 3 — 15 Book 4 — 28
Journeyman Tech:	Book 1 — 1 Book 2 — 2 Book 3 — 0 Book 4 — 0

Safety Standards Slide as OSHA Guts Workplace Injury Tracking

The Trump Administration's new rule returns injury reports back into the darkness of corporate filing cabinets and makes it much more difficult for regulators and safe workplace advocates to collect reliable data.

Sections of the Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses were offi-

cially killed on Jan. 25 in the midst of the nation's longest government shutdown, when the federal government's own employees – including thousands of IBEW members – were forced to work without pay.

"This is only the latest attack on the wallets and safety of working Americans by this administration," said International President Lonnie Stephenson. "It's one thing to run as some kind of guardian of the working class, but the record speaks louder than any stump speech: attacks on pensions, limits on who gets overtime, delayed safety rules. We can trust our own eyes to tell us what working families mean to this White House."

The now-eliminated portions of the standard required most employers to electronically submit detailed injury and illness reports to the agency each year (with individually identifying information removed). The goal was to make it easier for inspectors to focus resources at dangerous workplaces and let public health and worker safety advocates find –and respond to— trends in workplace injuries.

Last year, the Trump administration took steps to delay and then kill portions of the rule. The portion of the standard that prevents employers from retaliating against workers who report an injury has, so far, not been touched.

"We fought for that rule for decades

and they rolled it up and spit it back at us in about 18 months," Mullen said.

In general, OSHA requires employers to maintain three kinds of records for reportable injuries and illnesses. They have to keep a daily log that lists every event as it happens, a specific incident report that details how it happened, and they have to create a more generalized annual summary of all incidents.

Prior to the 2016 Obama administration revision, that's all employers had to do: keep it around. If an inspector came by, they could request the files and, if they showed the company was in violation of rules, or if the company didn't have the paperwork done correctly, the inspectors could cite the company for violating the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

But unions had been asking for decades for OSHA to collect the information and make it public in a way that would keep workers safer. The companies already had the information; submitting it wouldn't add much cost, and there was a real opportunity to save lives.

"The companies fought it like we were stealing from them," Mullen said. "This union was founded to improve safety standards for electrical workers. Those accident reports are worth more than gold because we can save lives with the information that is in them."

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