



# TEAMSTERS LOCAL 727

## MEMBER NEWSLETTER

**FALL 2019**

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John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer ▫ TeamstersLocal727.org ▫ 1300 W. Higgins Road, Suite 111 ▫ Park Ridge, IL 60068

### **NLRB Orders CC Traffic to Make Whole & Reimburse with Interest Local 727 Members**

Region 13 of the National Labor Relations Board recently issued a default judgement against CC Traffic and Property Management Company LLC as a result of the Company's failure to respond to NLRB-issued complaints from 2018.

The case against CC Traffic initially stems from an unfair labor practice charge filed by Local 727 against the Company on March 6, 2018, after the Company took over a location previously managed by Park One and refused to recognize or bargain with the Union as the exclusive collective bargaining representative of its employees. Local 727 later filed an additional ULP charge against CC Traffic for the Company's refusal to provide the Union with requested information.

Region 13 of the NLRB found merit with the Union's ULP charges and issued a complaint against CC Traffic in 2018. The NLRB's complaint alleged that the Company violated the National Labor Relations Act by refusing to recognize Local 727 as the collective bargaining representative of its employees, by ignoring the Union's requests to bargain, and by failing to provide the Union with the information it had requested.

Because CC Traffic failed to respond to Region 13's complaints, the NLRB has deemed the allegations to be admitted as true and has judged the Company to be in default.

To remedy CC Traffic's unlawful

See **Judgement**, Page 6

### **Local 727 Executive Board Elected to New Term**



**Teamsters Local 727 Executive Board (from left): Vice President Darryl Poelinitz, Trustee Jose Delgado, President Curt Ziedrich, Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr., Trustee Patrice Jefferson, Trustee Tony Wendel, and Recording Secretary Bill Coli.**

On Sunday, November 3, 2019, the Executive Board of Teamsters Local 727 was elected to a new three-year term by an enthusiastic gathering of the Local 727 membership.

The Unity Slate, under the leadership of Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. and comprised of all current Local 727 Executive Board members, ran without opposition and won re-election by acclamation.

John Coli, Jr. remains Local 727's Secretary-Treasurer and principal officer. He has been a member of Teamsters Local 727 for over twenty years, serving first as President of the Union for seven years before being appointed to the position of Secretary-Treasurer in 2017. Secretary-Treasurer Coli is also the Chairman of the

Teamsters Local 727 Benefit Funds, including the Teamsters Local Union No. 727 Health and Welfare Fund, the Teamsters Local Union No. 727 Pension Fund, and the Teamsters Local Union No. 727 Legal and Educational Assistance Fund, the Soft Drink Industry Pension Fund, and the Teamsters Local 727 Trade Show 401(k) Plan, as well as a member of the Illinois AFL-CIO Executive Board, the Parking Industry Labor Management Committee, and the Illinois Bar.

Local 727 President Curt Ziedrich, Vice President Darryl Poelinitz, Recording Secretary Bill Coli, and Trustees Tony Wendel, Patrice Jefferson, and Jose Delgado will also retain their positions.

See **Election**, Page 2

**IMPORTANT DATES****Membership Meetings:**

Held at noon in the meeting hall at 1300 W. Higgins Rd, Suite 114, in Park Ridge, IL

- Sunday, December 15
- Sunday, January 26

**Union Office Closings:**

- Thanksgiving  
Thursday, November 28  
& Friday, November 29
- Christmas Eve  
Tuesday, December 24
- Christmas  
Wednesday, December 25
- New Year's Eve  
Tuesday, December 31

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TeamstersLocal727](https://www.flickr.com/photos/teamsterslocal727/)



Check out our videos on  
[Vimeo.com/Local727](https://vimeo.com/Local727)

**Election,** from Page 1

Thanks to Secretary-Treasurer Coli's renewed focus on organizing, Local 727's membership has grown steadily under the Executive Board's leadership. In the past two years alone, the Union has organized seven new bargaining units, welcoming nearly 300 workers to the Local 727 family.

In addition to fighting for fair first contracts for the Union's newest members, Secretary-Treasurer Coli has diligently worked to strengthen and enforce the collective bargaining agreements covering all Local 727 members. No matter the challenge posed by corporate giants like Keurig Dr Pepper or Coca-Cola, regardless of the bad faith tactics utilized by employers like Standard Parking or MV Transportation, the Executive Board has stood behind Local 727 members at the negotiating table, on the ULP strike line, and throughout the grievance and arbitration process until fair treatment and justice were secured.

"As our Union continues to grow, so too does our power to negotiate and enforce the contracts of each and every one of our hardworking Local 727 Brothers and Sisters," said Secretary-Treasurer Coli. "There is no better way to protect workers than to ensure they have a fair contract and a strong Union backing them up."

The Local 727 Benefit Funds have also prospered under the careful watch of the

Funds Trustees, including Secretary-Treasurer Coli. Because of the financial success and stability of the Teamsters Local Union No. 727 Pension Plan, the Union was successfully able to negotiate the merger of the Local 727 Pension Plan and the Chicago Newspaper Publishers Drivers Union Pension Fund, thereby saving the pensions of approximately 850 participants, including the pensions of Local 727-represented Chicago Tribune delivery drivers.

"Our Executive Board officers have worked hard to support, protect, and improve the lives of the members of our great Union. We have dedicated ourselves to the fight for fairness, equality, and respect for all workers," said Coli. "I am humbled by the unity of our membership and grateful for their continued trust and support."

The Executive Board will be officially sworn in during the Union's December general membership meeting on Sunday, December 15. The Local 727 Executive Board's new three-year term will begin on January 1, 2020.

"While there may be challenges and fights ahead, together we have the power to overcome all obstacles," added Secretary-Treasurer Coli. "The Local 727 Executive Board, business agents, and staff remain committed to providing our Local 727 Brothers and Sisters with the exceptional representation, unparalleled assistance, and unwavering support that they deserve."

**Local 727 Executive Board**

**John Coli, Jr.**, Secretary-Treasurer  
**Curt Ziedrich**, President  
**Darryl Poelinitz**, Vice President  
**William Coli**, Recording Secretary  
**Anthony Wendel**, Trustee  
**Patrice Jefferson**, Trustee  
**Jose Delgado**, Trustee

**Local 727 Staff**

**Ana Barrera**, Receptionist  
**Jayna Brown**, General Counsel  
**Rebecca Clancy**, Bookkeeper  
**Mike McManus**, Director of Referrals  
**Linnette Medina**, Titan Operator  
**Anabel Ornelas**, Office Manager  
**Chris Owoyemi**, Staff Attorney

**Staff (cont.)**

**Kathy Sundberg**, Titan Operator  
**Margaret Upstrom**, Lead Titan Operator  
**Maggie Ward**, Communications Director

**Local 727 Business Agents  
and Organizers**

**Caleen Carter-Patton**, Lead Business Agent  
**Mike DeGard**, Business Agent  
**Zach Frankenbach**, Lead Business Agent  
**David Glass**, Business Agent  
**Don Leiva**, Organizer  
**Sean McGough**, Business Agent  
**Nick Micaletti**, Business Agent  
**Ben Rodriguez**, Business Agent  
**Melissa Senatore**, Lead Business Agent  
**Donnie Von Moore**, Business Agent

# 20+ Years and Over \$30M

## The Local 727 Legal & Educational Assistance Fund Continues to Help Make College More Affordable

This year, the Teamsters Local 727 Legal and Educational Assistance Fund awarded more than \$2.5 million in college tuition and educational fee reimbursements to hundreds of eligible participants, their spouses, and dependents. Over the program's 20+ year history, the Teamsters Local 727 Legal and Educational Assistance Fund Board of Trustees have distributed over \$30 million in Educational Assistance Benefits to participants and their families.

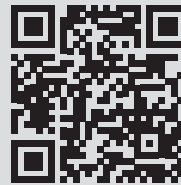
Each school year, the Teamsters Local 727 Legal and Educational Assistance Fund Board of Trustees allocates funds to provide college tuition reimbursements to eligible participants and their family members who are full-time students at accredited colleges or universities. Participants, their spouses, and eligible dependents who have incurred tuition and educational fee expenses over the previous school year, may receive up to \$10,000 in reimbursements per year per student. Participants who attend an accredited college or university on a part-time basis may apply to receive up to \$2,500 in tuition reimbursement each year.

"Because of the strength and stability of our benefit funds, this year our program was able to distribute more than double the

amount of funds handed out by the IBT's James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund. Hearing from our members of the impact these funds have had on them and their families is truly awe-inspiring," said Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer and Legal and Educational Assistance Fund Chairman John Coli, Jr. "We couldn't be prouder to be able to offer this incredible benefit to so many of the hardworking families in our Union. I am deeply honored and proud to count myself a member of this great Union."

**Please note, in order to be eligible for this benefit your contract must require your employer to pay contributions to the Legal and Educational Assistance Fund on your behalf. If you are uncertain of your, your spouse, or your dependent's eligibility, please contact the Local 727 Benefit Funds Office at (773) 685-0340.**

Scan the QR code  
for more information  
on scholarships  
available to Local 727  
members, or visit  
[rebrand.ly/union-scholarships](http://rebrand.ly/union-scholarships)



## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Amshah Mushtaq,**  
daughter of  
Hasnain Mushtaq  
(Pioneer Parking)

**Alyssa Sinclair,**  
daughter of  
Dawn Sinclair  
(Oscro)

**Shannon Clancy,**  
daughter of  
James Clancy  
(Movie/Tradeshow)

&

**Penelopi Perez,**  
daughter of  
Jorge Perez  
(Pepsi)

**Recipients  
of the 2019  
James R. Hoffa  
Memorial  
Scholarship**

## Meet Your New Local 727 Business Representative

### Sean McGough

*Business Representative*  
Sean McGough, a Hammond, Ind., native, earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Indiana University. Before coming on board with Local 727 in August 2019, he was an organizer with SEIU Local 73 for over ten years, eventually working his way up to Organizing Director where he spearheaded organizing campaigns and managed the local's growth strategy. Sean is now bringing his passion for uniting workers and social justice to his work as a business representative for hotel, parking, pharmacy, and paratransit members.



## Remember Your Weingarten Rights!

If you are called into a meeting and have reason to believe that disciplinary action may be imposed, you have the right to have a union agent present during the meeting. Read this statement to management:

### Your Right to Union Representation

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I request my union representative be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions."

*(This is my right under the 1975 U.S. Supreme Court Weingarten decision.)*



## Local 727 & CDT Dive into Negotiations for Successor CBA

The Teamsters Local 727 bargaining committee kicked-off negotiations with Cook DuPage Transportation, Inc., a subsidiary of National Express, last month for a new collective bargaining agreement covering drivers, porters, dispatchers, vehicle service attendants, recon, and customer service representatives.

The Union opened negotiations in October by presenting the Company with a comprehensive contract proposal based upon the contract demands collected from hundreds of CDT members.

Some of the Union's top proposals included:

- » significant annual wage raises for all CDT members;
- » an improved, more affordable health care options,
- » new hourly premiums for weekend work, hours worked after 2 p.m., recon employees, and employees that are expected to speak Spanish while working;
- » a stronger and more efficient grievance process;
- » an improved, fair attendance point system;
- » additional paid days off; and
- » contract language that would prohibit CDT from requiring a driver to work over his or her daily guarantee.

Over the course of negotiations, the Local 727 bargaining committee has been successful in securing several non-economic wins. The Union will continue to fight for an improved, fair attendance policy and contract language that ensures members get home on-time, as well as for fair wages and more affordable health care.

"The Local 727 bargaining committee is fully committed to working during negotiations to address each of the issues brought forward by CDT members," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727. "We look forward to continuing bargaining and to obtaining the best possible contract for our dedicated and hardworking CDT Brothers and Sisters."



Local 727's **FAT CAT** and **SCABBY THE RAT** inflatables greeted CDT negotiators before bargaining began this past Halloween.

### Loews Chicago O'Hare: **RATIFIED**

Teamsters Local 727 members employed by Loews Chicago O'Hare unanimously ratified a new successor collective bargaining agreement.

Along with scheduling improvements and an increased number of PTO days, the new 4-year agreement also includes annual wage raises totaling \$3.50 over the life of the contract. Additionally, Loews shuttle drivers will have, for the very first time, the opportunity to participate in the Company's 401(k) retirement plan.

### Vitalant (FKA Lifesource): **RATIFIED**

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, Local 727 members employed as distribution drivers and Mobile Unit Assistants by Vitalant overwhelmingly ratified a new 3-year collective bargaining agreement that contained improved shift premiums, enhanced job protections, and the highest wage increases for drivers in nearly a decade.

In addition to significant raises, the

contract now outlines the terms of several employee benefits that had previously been dictated solely by corporate policy. Among the benefit terms now detailed in the contract are those related to leaves of absence, paid time off, and wage differentials. Since the Union bargaining committee was successfully able to negotiate the inclusion of these benefits, Local 727 will now be able to enforce their terms through the grievance process.

### MV-135 (Chicago): **RATIFIED**

MV Chicago 135 Division members overwhelmingly voted in favor of ratifying the terms of the wages and health care reopener secured by Local 727 earlier this year.

The ratified economic agreement contains significant health care improvements. Effective January 1, 2020, two affordable health care options will be available to MV-135 employees, which will help to ease the burden of health care costs from members' shoulders.

Under the ratified agreement, eligible

## NEGOTIATION AND

members will also receive a \$0.50 wage increase, effective April 1, 2020, in addition to the annual anniversary raises previously negotiated by the Union and included in the current MV-135 CBA.

### MV Loyola: **RATIFIED**

Five weeks after authorizing an unfair labor practice strike, MV Transportation Loyola Division members overwhelmingly ratified a new CBA that includes increases in paid time off, improved health care options, and substantial annual wage raises.

Beginning on the date of the CBA's ratification, all bargaining unit members's had their hourly wages increased a minimum of 17.5%. This significant increase will be followed by additional hourly wage raises in each subsequent year of the contract.

Additionally, effective July 1, 2022, MV Loyola members will have the option of selecting between two new,

# Labor Board Shoots Down Keurig Dr Pepper Objections, Confirms SSRs Part of New Bargaining Unit

The Union is pleased to report that the American Bottling Company's request for a review of Region 13's election hearing decision and certification of Teamsters Local 727 as the collective bargaining representative of Sales Service Representatives (SSRs) and Account Managers (AMs) was denied by the National Labor Relations Board last month.

As such, the Labor Board upheld the Region's original certification of Local 727 as the sole collective bargaining representative of all Northlake-based SSRs and AMs and the prior election results.

Local 727 immediately contacted Region 13 of the NLRB after receiving notice of the Board's decision to request the Region expedite all of the unfair labor charges filed by the Union against the American Bottling Company, a Keurig Dr Pepper subsidiary, that it recently found merit with, including charges over the Company's failure to bargain over the elimination of SSRs. Local 727 has demanded that the Company be required to restore the status quo and return all SSRs and AMs to the positions, schedules, and pay rates that they held prior to the Company's elimination of the SSR position. The Union has also demanded that the Company be required to make whole all employees for any financial loss they suffered as a result of the elimination.

"While it is unfortunate that Keurig Dr Pepper refused to

honor its employees' democratic choice for union representation, the Company will now face the consequences of that decision and have to answer directly to the Labor Board," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727.

In light of the Company's silence since the NLRB's decision was announced, Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. has written multiple letters to Keurig Dr Pepper management demanding the Company bargain with the Union over a first collective bargaining agreement for Northlake salesmen.

"The NLRB has made its determination and Keurig Dr Pepper has lost. Local 727 demands the Company cease its bad faith delays and begin fulfilling their obligations under the law," said Secretary-Treasurer Coli. "The Union looks forward to securing a strong first collective bargaining agreement for SSRs and AMs."

**"The NLRB has made its determination and Keurig Dr Pepper has lost."**  
**—John Coli, Jr.**

Teamsters Local 727 will update members when negotiation dates have been confirmed.

## CONTRACT UPDATES

more affordable health care options, a High Deductible Plan and a Buy-Up Plan.

### MV-422: RATIFIED

Drivers and aides employed by MV Transportation Division 422, who provide vital paratransit services to Chicago Public Schools, overwhelmingly ratified their first Teamster collective bargaining agreement on October 10. Local 727 succeeded in aligning the new 14-month CBA, with the renewal of MV's contract with CPS. By doing so, the Union has ensured that the Local 727 bargaining committee will be well-positioned to secure an even stronger contract in 2020.

In addition to raising wages twice over the term of the agreement, the new MV-422 CBA also requires general bids to be conducted twice each year and stipulates that routes must be fairly assigned based strictly on seniority.

The first contract also includes crucial job protections for all MV-422 drivers and aides, such as a strong and efficient grievance and arbitration process. The Local 727 bargaining committee was also successful in securing contract language that allows employees to refuse to cross a sanctioned picket line.

### Oscos: COMPANY OFFER REJECTED

Over 93% of Oscos pharmacists voted to reject the Company's recent 5-year contract offer, which included a 4-year wage freeze, single wage raise of 1% in 2023, underwhelming lump sum payments, unspecified health care premium increases, and a new lower wage tier for new hires.

Local 727 and Oscos will be meeting next on December 10. The parties will be joined by a mediator.

### Reyes Fleet Management: RATIFIED

Mechanics employed by Reyes Fleet Management overwhelmingly ratified a new CBA on October 19. The recently

ratified 4-year agreement is the first Teamster contract for the workers, who voted in favor of joining Local 727 earlier this year.

Local 727 was successful in securing the Union's newest members a PPO health care plan option with a "Most Favored Nations" clause, which guarantees that mechanics' premiums will be lowered if other employees in the Company are offered a better rate.

In addition to health care improvements, the Local 727 bargaining committee was also able to secure a \$500 ratification bonus and 3% annual wage raises for all workers. Additionally, under the new contract, Reyes will be required to match 50% of mechanics' contributions to the Company's 401(k) retirement plans, up to 10%.

**Sign-up to receive contract and bargaining updates via email by visiting [TeamstersLocal727.org](https://TeamstersLocal727.org) or by contacting your Business Agent.**

## Judgement, from Page 1

actions, the NLRB has ordered CC Traffic to:

1. *Recognize and, on request, bargain in good faith with Local 727;*
2. *Provide the Union with the information it requested;*
3. *Make whole bargaining unit members, including making retroactive contributions to the Local 727 Health and Welfare, Pension, and Legal and Educational Assistance Funds and by continuing to make these contributions until negotiations with the Union have concluded;*
4. *Reimburse employees, with interest, for any expenses that resulted from the Company's failure to make the required fund contributions; and*
5. *Post notices informing employees that the NLRB has found CC Traffic in violation of federal law.*

"This victory is another reminder that persistence pays off," said John Coli Jr., Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer. "This Union expects all employers to follow the letter of the law. We won't hesitate to take action against any Company that violates the law or terms of their CBAs."

## LABOR BOARD VICTORIES

### NLRB Finds Merit with Multiple ULP Charges Filed Against CVS

Region 13 of the National Labor Relations Board has found merit with several unfair labor practice charges filed by the Union against CVS.

Among the ULP charges that the NLRB has found merit with are charges filed by Local 727 in April over CVS's interrogation of pharmacists and attempts to circumvent the Union and deal directly with employees, a charge filed over the Company's unilateral implementation of a new two-step verification system, and two ULP charges filed as a result of the Company's failure to provide the Union with requested information.

Local 727 is eagerly awaiting the Labor Board's ruling on the Union's appeal of Region 13's decision to dismiss some of Local 727's earlier ULP charges against CVS. Local 727 continues to believe strongly that the ULP charges it filed over CVS's overall bad faith bargaining, as well as the Union's concerns that a recent ULP settlement did not appropriately remedy CVS's violations of federal law, are well substantiated and valid.

### NLRB Finds Merit with Union's ULP against Chicago Jewish Funerals

Region 13 of the National Labor Relations Board recently found merit with an unfair labor practice charge filed by Local 727 against Chicago Jewish Funerals. Local 727 initially filed the ULP charge after Chicago Jewish Funerals informed the Union that the Company would not honor the agreement reached during negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement, which included retroactivity.

The NLRB found the Company's refusal to execute the agreement to be unlawful.

Region 13 of the NLRB has issued a complaint against Chicago Jewish Funerals. A hearing on this matter has been scheduled by the NLRB for February 18, 2020.

"Let this be a lesson to all employers who think they can turn their back on their collective bargaining agreements," said Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. "Local 727 will not back down when our members' rights are infringed upon. We will not hesitate to pursue justice. We will fight for every one of our members."

## Amendments to IL Pharmacy Practice Act Do Not Go Far Enough, Teamsters Local 727 Maintains Further Reform Needed

Last month, the Illinois Pharmaceutical Task Force submitted its final recommendations for modifying the Illinois Pharmacy Practice Act (PPA). While State Rep. Michael Zalewski appeared to use the Task Force's recommendations to draft a proposal for amending the PPA, there appeared to be areas where the representative's proposed amendments departed from the Task Force's carefully chosen language.

Among the inconsistencies were (1) alterations in recommended language that appear to place additional duties on head pharmacists, or Pharmacists in Charge (PICs), to train pharmacy technicians; (2) changes in recommended language that appear to broaden the Task Force's proposed limitations on advertising and solicitation; and (3) the addition of new language that was not presented or agreed upon by the Task Force. The proposal also failed to include a requirement for employers to establish a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Program, as was recommended by the Task Force. According to the Task Force's final report, the establishment and use of a CQI Program is essential and will allow the State to ensure employers are maintaining effective error records.

After expressing the Union's concerns, Rep. Zalewski agreed to work with Local 727 and Joint Council 25 to improve upon the initial bill. In addition to updating the bill to more closely match the Task Force's recommended language, the final bill clarifies that PICs are not responsible for training technicians, extends the Task Force for one year to allow further consideration of outstanding issues, and provides the Labor Movement with an additional seat on the Task Force.

"These amendments do not go far enough," said Secretary-Treasurer Coli. "Our work is not done. We must address critical issues that continue to threaten the wellbeing of retail pharmacists and the general public."

As made clear by the dissents found in the Task Force's report, further amendments to the PPA that are needed include: (1) an eight hour limit on retail pharmacists' workdays; (2) having at least one pharmacy technician on duty at all times; (3) providing a separate breakroom, so as to guarantee uninterrupted rest breaks; and (4) a triple-pay penalty for days during which the retail employer fails to provide a pharmacist with the opportunity to take an uninterrupted break.



## Local 727 Members Step-Up to Fight Breast Cancer

Teamsters Local 727 members, families, and friends came together in Park Ridge last month for the American Cancer Society's annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk. Donning their finest pink apparel, the Local 727 team helped spread awareness and support the fight against breast cancer.

Local 727 once again partnered with the American Cancer Society as the Park Ridge walk's Big Pink Chair sponsor.

"It's always wonderful to see our Teamster family standing together, especially when it's for such a worthy cause," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727. "Thank you to everyone who walked and supported our team."

This year, Local 727 has raised over \$5,400 for breast cancer research. The Union team will continue to accept donations for the American Cancer Society through December 31.



A record number of Local 727 members, families, & friends came out to show their support.

See more pictures from the walk  
at [flickr.com/TeamstersLocal727](https://www.flickr.com/photos/TeamstersLocal727/)



Local 727 families had a ball Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.



Teamsters and their families loved hopping up on the Big Pink Chair.

## Local 727 Members Help Shape the Future at 2019 Women's Conference

Teamsters Local 727 members were proud participants at this year's Teamsters Women's Conference in Montreal, Canada. The annual three-day conference brings Teamsters from all across the world together for empowering and educational workshops, panels, and networking opportunities.

"The Women's Conference provides an amazing opportunity for Teamster women to gather, learn from one another, and grow stronger," said Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. "It has been incredible to hear from so many Teamster Sisters about their success fighting for equality and fair treatment. When Teamsters join together, we truly are an unstoppable force for change."



Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. and members pose with IBT General President James Hoffa at the 2019 Women's Conference.

FALL 2019



# TEAMSTERS LOCAL 727

## MEMBER NEWSLETTER

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## A Message from Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr.

### Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving is a holiday of solidarity—a time for gathering together, for reflecting on the past year, and for giving thanks for all the good things in our lives. This Thanksgiving, I am grateful for our Teamster Family.

Time and time again, our Local 727 Brothers and Sisters have shown they are willing to stand together and fight for what is right. Thanks to the unwavering solidarity of our membership, Local 727 has had the power to negotiate strong contracts, to defend unjustly disciplined members, and to hold corporate giants accountable for their misbehavior.

In order for our Union to continue to be successful, we must all keep up our hard work and continue to pitch in. Come to monthly membership meetings, attend a rally, visit fellow union members on the picket line. Our Union will remain strong as long as our members remain active.

I'd like to thank each and every one of you, my Teamster Brothers and Sisters, for your continued solidarity, loyalty, and fraternity over this past year. I'm proud to serve as your Secretary-Treasurer and look forward to another successful year.



*John Coli*