

From: Liz Bettencourt
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 6:57 PM
Subject: President's Message - October 19, 2012

Members,

Safety

Hopefully you have had a chance to read the communication from the CEO titled “Safety when encountering a homeless encampment” which was sent out this morning.

(<http://www.aqua.gov/business-mgt-policies/CEO>) Whether or not your work takes you into or near these encampments, *the message is important for all staff to know.*

We appreciate the efforts of managers like Kristen O’Kane, Liang Lee and Norma Camacho for their quick response to this recent incident, and I’d like to also thank EA steward **Don Duran** for his help.

Propositions

We have received copies of a handy-dandy Union member guide to labor’s recommendations on the propositions. These are being distributed as far and wide as possible—they are about propositions, not candidates and no mention of “other” ballot items we District employees can’t talk about! For information on those “other” things, always go to the EA website.

We need your help—many members from all three District bargaining units have put in multiple shifts of precinct walking and phone banking already in an effort to defeat Prop 32 and support other very important issues. If everyone would come and *do just one shift on a phone bank*, we could reach so many more people! And remember, we are not cold-calling voters—these are union households we are calling. There is phone banking every week night, and beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 27. For the GOTV week (“get out the vote”) there will be phone banking all day on November 3, 4 and 5. Even volunteering one or two hours will make a huge dent in how many people we can get our messages to. There will also be an Election Day party on Tuesday, November 6 beginning after the polls close. Please contact me or Dave Matthews and let us know when you can help.

Solidarity Rally

At 5:30 on Monday, October 29, there will be a rally in support of the newly organized EMS professionals of AFSCME Local 4911! These are workers at Rural/Metro who are now fighting for their first contract. The rally will be held at the South Bay Labor Council, 2102 Almaden Road, San Jose. Another exciting aspect of this event is that our own AFSCME International Secretary-Treasurer Laura Reyes will be the guest speaker. There will be unions from all over the county there to cheer them on, so please come support them and wear your green AFSCME tee shirt. We do have a limited supply of shirts, so if you need one, contact Cathy Paramo.

Have a great weekend!

Liz Bettencourt

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