



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS • AFL-CIO

LOCAL 399

STRONG • PROUD • UNITED
Stronger Together!

Brothers and Sisters,

I want to take a moment to thank you, our Brothers and Sisters of Local 399, who have stepped up during this unprecedented COVID-19 outbreak.

Although this is all-new territory for our Union, our country and the world, I want to tell you how extremely proud I am of our membership, my Brothers and Sisters, in how we have all stepped up to meet this challenge.

Local 399 Business Representatives and I have received so many thank you's on behalf of the actions of our Local 399 members and the dedication they've shown to the buildings and facilities that we maintain.

I know that for our members in the hotel industry this has been a very stressful time as we've been hit hard with hundreds of layoffs. I want to sincerely thank those members who have been impacted by this work disruption for your patience and resilience. Please know that we are working to help affected members in whatever way we can. I also want to thank our members who voluntarily reduced their hours to avoid layoffs on their crews.

While our commercial side has not been as harshly impacted with layoffs (which is very fortunate), it is very important for all members to stay in contact with their Business Representative to advise on your employment status.

As we are deemed "essential employees", I do want to remind those members who are working that now (more than ever) it is vital to highlight your value . . . emphasizing energy conversation, preventative maintenance, building preparations and other efficiencies that you can implement to help your building owners lessen the economic impacts they are experiencing right now.

What we are currently going through embodies the spirit of unionism – **we are all in this together and together we will get through this!** No one can overcome this storm better than Unions and the American Labor Movement.

While the Union Hall has been closed due to the "Stay at Home" Executive Order, our Business Agents, departments and staff are working remotely, and are available to serve members via phone and e-mail.

Thank you again to our members for all you do!

Be well.

Brian E. Hickey
President & Business Manager