



BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By Marvin Kropke

Janus v. AFSCME

Brothers & Sisters,

I am writing to you to discuss one of the most important issues facing unions right now. The anti-union billionaires in Washington and on Wall Street have been working overtime to put our union, and unions across the country, out of business. This is not some wild exaggeration; it is a simple fact.

At the end of February, the anti-worker majority Supreme Court heard the case *Janus v. AFSCME* and is now poised to reverse decades of precedent. Most legal experts expect the conservative majority to strip public sector unions of their ability to collect agency fees from individuals who they are required to represent. A decision on this case is scheduled to be made as late as June of this year. If these agency fees are eliminated, it is estimated that 30% of public sector Union's funding will disappear overnight.

IBEW Local 11 represents approximately 6,000 civil service members. Many of these members joined us recently in our merger with the Engineers and Architects Association. There are many others that work for Los Angeles County, LA City, LAUSD, LACCD, MWD, LAX and dozens of other agencies that keep Los Angeles working.

We have been very successful in

growing our union in a very difficult climate. Our union gives us the power to create good paying jobs and benefits. We are also very politically active, but the combined spending of every single union in America in the 2016 election cycle was outdone by just 5 billionaires. That's it.

The anti-union billionaires can't beat us fair and square when it comes to the issues, so they want to use a stacked Supreme Court to steal your voice. The *Janus v. AFSCME* case is a direct attack on public sector members, but make no mistake, this is another step towards crippling resources for ALL union members. Converting this country into a

Right to Work nation is about stacking the deck against everyday Americans. In this time of great turmoil and change we will fight this attack and any others on our great union.

"With all their faults, trade-unions have done more for humanity than any other organization of men that ever existed. They have done more for decency, for honesty, for education, for the betterment of the race, for the developing of character in man, than any other association of men."

—CLARENCE DARROW

*In Solidarity,
Marvin Kropke
IBEW 11 Business Manager*

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