



# NEWS@11

IBEW11.ORG

THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

MAY 2025



IBEW 11 turned out in support of a Community Workforce Agreement with the Burbank Unified School District. Clockwise from left: Political Director Antonio Sanchez, District 4 Business Agent Brett Moss, District 4 Organizer Ruben Mendoza, Tim McArdle, District 1 Business Agent Zac Solomon, Organizer Ben Frank and Andrea Padilla. Not pictured: Terry Norton.

## BURBANK UNIFIED EMBRACES ORGANIZED LABOR

By Robert Fulton

Outside of maybe the entertainment unions, Burbank isn't exactly known as a pro-union city.

That may be slowly changing as the city, known for a great airport and giant Ikea, starts to wrap its arm around Labor.

The Burbank Unified School District recently approved a Community Workforce Agreement (CWA), sometimes known as a Project Labor Agreement, with the Building Trades that will guarantee jobs for Local 11 for years to come across multiple projects.

The vote was unanimous.

Last November, Burbank residents approved Measure ABC, which allows for nearly \$460 million in bonds for school improvements.

"That money, of course, turns into jobs for our members,"

said District 4 Business Agent Brett Moss. "They've got a tremendous amount of work. They want the work to be done by organized labor."

Moss has held the role of District 4 Business Agent and has been covering Burbank and the greater District 4 area for the past year. He credits communication as the key to getting a unanimous vote for the CWA from the school district.

**“ They’ve got a tremendous amount of work.”**

— BRETT MOSS  
District 4 Business Agent

Moss said that union members shared their stories and why the CWA is important, and they also listened to questions and concerns from the school board so that they could "get their arms around what exactly the CWA was going to mean," Moss said.

For District 4 organizer Ruben Mendoza, establishing more work in Burbank is more personal. He's lived in the city for nearly 30 years, and not once has he worked here. Having that opportunity to work closer to home is a big plus for him and other members living in the San Fernando Valley.

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## Members Get Inspiration from Electrical Contractor Business Class

Members can't say enough good things about the week-long Contractor Business class they attended at the union's Pasadena headquarters from May 5-9.

"The class was amazing," says Volt Electric President Vincent Rubalcava. "The information they presented was so useful. They presented a lot of great resources – estimating, tax credits, solar, marketing, payroll. You name it."

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## BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE



### Creating Opportunities for Our Members

In my 34 years as a Local 11 member, one of the programs I'm most proud of is the annual contractors class that we have been hosting for our members for most of the past 20 years. We were the first IBEW local to hold the class on the West Coast.

It all started years ago when I met Matt Kolbinsky, a fellow IBEW member from Ohio, who was conducting one of his multi-day Contractor workshops, teaching IBEW members how to get their C-10 licenses. The goal was for union members to open up their own union shops. I knew immediately it would be of interest to our members and I wanted to bring the program to our local. At the time I was an Organizer for the local, and I saw huge value in the program. I convinced our Business Manager at the time, Marvin Kropke, to bring the program to LA, and we've never looked back. Some 300 of our members have graduated from the workshop.

Matt started Pro Union Consulting in 2002, and boasts that over 635 graduates have started their own union businesses since then.

We just completed our 15th class in Pasadena last week – the most of any IBEW locals around the country -- and I still get a kick out of talking to the student members about the value of the class and all the opportunities there are for them in the electrical industry.

Each year we get up to as many as 30 IBEW 11 members who sign up for the class. They put down a deposit, which is returned when they complete the class.

We target IBEW members with an entrepreneurial spirit who show an interest in opening their own shop. For those members, this class gives them a taste of what it's like, and teaches them many of the skills needed to run a successful business. Everything from which suppliers to buy from to how to estimate jobs to marketing themselves.

Over the years, I've talked to hundreds of our members, and met many journeymen, foremen, project managers who want to open their own businesses, but don't know where to start. This is the class that will help them figure it out.

And for the local, the class is a win-win. Most of these members are skilled and trained graduates of our apprentice program, they are dedicated union members, and understand the value of the union. They typically become signatory with the union and turn around and hire their union brothers and sisters.

We all know the story about Morrow Meadows which was started in a garage 60 years ago by IBEW members and is now one of the largest Electrical union contractors in the region. Another large signatory contractor, CSI, was also started by three union brothers. When we look at our list of union signatories, the vast majority of them started out as union members – journeymen who decided to take the plunge. It's a natural transition to go from being a journeymen or foreman to opening your own firm and hiring your union brothers and sisters. It's easy to sign them up as signatories. And the best part is they get to maintain their membership in the union, along with their health and pension benefits. As I said, it's a win-win.

We get a lot of positive feedback from members who go through the class and that's very gratifying to me when I go to speak to them each year. The course is a partnership between IBEW 11 and NECA with LMCC support.

**Interested?** You can read more about the class in this edition of News@11.

**“ We target IBEW members with an entrepreneurial spirit who show an interest in opening their own shop. For those members, this class gives them a taste of what it's like...”**

### S&C Allocation Vote

In other news, I'm pleased to report the Sound and Communications unit voted to go with the committee's recommendation on where to allocate their \$1.60 raise. They voted to put \$1 toward wages, \$0.50 cents to the health plan and \$0.10 cents to the HRA card.

This is democracy in action. Each cycle, President Alton Wilkerson and I attend the meeting and talk to members about the importance of the vote toward keeping their health plan viable and healthy. This year we had over 100 members turn out for the allocation vote, more than usual. I'm pleased to report that this year's allocation was a win-win for the plan and for the membership.

The effective date of the allocation is June 30, 2025.

In Solidarity,

**Robert Corona**  
Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary

## IBEW 11'S NEWS@11

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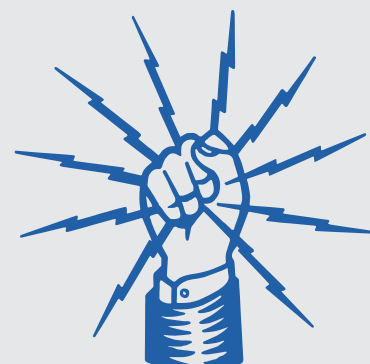
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT



### Salting Success

Hello Sisters and Brothers.

I know we've had a lot of discussion lately about salting. Well, to give you an update, we have had our first major victory in this area.

Our organizer Jorge Hernandez first ran into Sema Electric in North Los Angeles. Through routine organizing, he asked all the right questions, which led him to one of the owners

of the company. He explained to them the benefit of our union labor and the quality of craftsmanship we can add to their already thriving company. They asked for a couple of electricians right away, as they were in need of completing a current project.

Our organizing department hit the ground running, reaching out to members who were on

our interest list for salting. Once salting agreements were signed, our members showed Sema Electric what IBEW Local 11 is all about.

They were thrilled with what our members brought to the table. After months of utilizing some of our union electricians, Sema Electric finally made the big move and signed signatory with IBEW Local 11. This is the first time in our local's history that we've signed up a signatory contractor due to our salting efforts.

Victories like this are part of the foundation of union organized labor. I want to thank all of the members who gave it their all in their salting efforts and showing what a real union electrician has to offer. I am proud of each and every one of you as well as our Organizing Department for the hard work and dedication they put into providing a quality of life that many have dreamed of, through opening doors within the IBEW. A big shout out to all of our members who salted with them, Javier Vega, Donte Lang, Cristhian Garcia, Ricky Davis, G Love, Shawn Hinds, Ray Haro, Jorge Castillo, Brian Powell.

I am looking forward to a great partnership with Sema Electric and everything they have to offer.

**“Victories like this are part of the foundation of union organized labor.”**

**ANY  
IBEW LOCAL 11  
JOURNEYMAN  
INTERESTED  
IN SALTING**

Please contact the Organizing Department at:

**626.243.9701  
organizing@ibew11.org**



## POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT



### Outdated LA Convention Center Risks Jobs and Revenue

By Antonio Sanchez

**H**ave you been to the LA Convention Center lately? If so, you will immediately notice that the LA Convention Center has not seen investment in about 30 years. It's outdated and doesn't have enough

contiguous space. The roof is leaking, the flooring is old, and the bathrooms need a remodel.

Our first-class city needs a modern convention center that will attract more business. As we have reported, because of

the outdated infrastructure, Los Angeles has not been a top destination for conventions and conferences for many years. We need to change that. Long term, more conventions and conferences will mean more revenue for the city, plus more job calls for IBEW 11 members.

What are we doing about it? We are working with our labor partners at the LA County Federation of Labor AFL-CIO, IATSE locals, and the LA/OC Building Trades Council to convince the LA City Council to make a real investment into the convention center. The city's projected \$1 billion budget deficit for fiscal year 2025-26 is not making this conversation easy, and we are eager for the LA City Council to make a final decision on moving the project forward next month. We will once again need a big showing of IBEW 11 members to show our support.

We cannot keep losing conventions to smaller cities. An investment in our convention center will mean more hotels, more tax revenue, and more convention job calls to the hall.

And, of course, we also have a PLA on the construction work there.

With the city facing a massive budget deficit, the proposed LA City budget threatens hundreds of jobs represented by IBEW, including many EAA positions and civil service electricians. We will continue to attend the budget hearings and push for other solutions. City workers make the city better and cutting their jobs is not a solution.

On another subject, if you live in Hawthorne, Lennox, or Lawndale, we need you! Centinela Valley Union High School District is voting to enter PLA negotiations with the LA/OC Building Trades. Going after the work at local school districts has been a successful strategy for us. We have more PLAs at a time when millions of dollars in school modernization bonds have been approved by voters. Plus, a lot of our public school modernization is done by IBEW.

We will continue to keep you updated on how the Centinela Valley Union High School board voted.





## Start the day with your mind and body ready to work

By Mike Costigan, IBEW Local 11 Safety Officer

**W**hen I worked in the field, it was imperative that our minds were focused on the tasks we were going to be performing that day, and just as important was preparing our bodies to be able to perform those tasks. Let's take these two items one at a time.

At the start of each workday, we should be going through a comprehensive stretch and flex program. It takes minimal time and reaps many benefits. Stretching improves flexibility, increases blood flow, reduces muscle tension, and boosts energy levels, just to name a

few of the benefits. Increased flexibility can help with reducing muscle pulls and strains. Increased blood flow to the muscles and brain delivers more oxygen and nutrients which help wake up the body and improve alertness.

It can also reduce tension and stiffness accumulated overnight, alleviating aches and pains, especially in the back and joints. So, as you can see, performing a morning ritual of a stretch and flex program could save the employer more than the actual time it takes to perform the stretch and flex.

For the second item, a detailed JHA [Job Hazard Analysis] should also be performed every workday morning. Getting your mind focused on tasks to be performed will put you in the mindset on how to do it safely and productively.

When filling out a JHA, we should be talking about every aspect of the task to be performed. Another part of a complete JHA is to look for the worst possible scenarios and how to mitigate those hazards.

When we prepare our minds and bodies to work in harmony, there's no task that can't be accomplished.

**“When we prepare our minds and bodies to work in harmony, there's no task that can't be accomplished.”**

— MIKE COSTIGAN  
IBEW Local 11 Safety Officer



## On Site in Culver City

Business Agent/Safety Director Mike Costigan visits Rosendin's Apple Project in Culver City, under the leadership of General Foreman Mitch Cardenas, and acknowledges the exceptional work done by our membership.



## BURBANK UNIFIED EMBRACES ORGANIZED LABOR (Continued from Pg. 1)

Terry Norton, a 50-year retired member of Local 11 and a Burbank resident, spoke during the School Board Meeting.

“The CWA will benefit the citizens and businesses of Burbank first and foremost,” Norton said. “A Community Workforce Agreement for Burbank schools just makes good sense.”

Tim McCardle, another Local 11 member who spoke before the school board, echoed similar sentiments.

“If we have more people working here and people living in the neighborhood working in the neighborhood, there's a lot of pride that goes into that.”

Mendoza is also happy to see Burbank begin to shift to a more union-friendly town.

“Burbank has always been a little bit more shy with the unions,” Mendoza said. “They've never been in a big union town.”

Moss shared that the school board lamented some earlier work done non-union that didn't live up to expectations. Something that the skilled and trained workforce of Local 11 won't tolerate.

“It ended up costing them, whether it was time because of delays, or more money to correct what should have been done the first time,” Moss said. “So again, skilled and trained, that's what they're after. That's what every customer wants. They want it to be done right. They want it to be done the first time. They want to get their students into the best, safest schools that they can.”



Local 11 members joined others in the Building Trades to voice support for a CWA with the Burbank Unified School District.



Rubalcava, an 11-year IBEW 11 member, started Volt Electric four years ago, and now boasts a crew of journeymen and apprentice brothers and sisters working for him. He decided to take the class to bolster the solar portion of his business.

"I'm very excited to be starting this new division in my company," he said. "I brought my project manager in for the last two days so he would get a better understanding of estimating. We got great advice on solving problems and challenges."

Hosted by IBEW 11 and NECA, the class is offered annually by Matt Koblinsky, President of Pro Union Consulting. The 37-year IBEW member and his team of consultants provided the 30 IBEW 11 members who attended this year's course with a wealth of information and guidance on how to start or grow their own electrical contracting business.

"I'm fortunate enough to travel the country and teach brothers and sisters on how to start, run, and grow a successful Union business," said Koblinsky. "These classes provide our members the education, motivation and support system to expand our market share in the construction industry." He's proud that over 635 graduates have started their own businesses after taking his course.

The class is a mix of members who want a deep dive into the realities of starting their own business and realizing their dreams, and small contractors who want to learn more.

"My clients were asking if we do residential solar," Rubalcava explained. "I didn't know where to begin. So when I attended an emerging market class, I heard about this Contractor Class and I jumped at the chance to learn about solar installs."

The goal, explains Koblinsky, is to make it as easy as possible for members to start and run their own business. "We bring in a business development team to run students through what they need to succeed. We create a group of contractors and suppliers and vendors that will help each other out." Students bonded during the class, and at the end of the series, Volt Electric offered his shop for ongoing training.

Koblinsky and Business Manager Corona met 20 years ago, when both were organizers, and Corona immediately saw the value of training up union signatories from inside the Local – especially the foremen who had run big crews and big jobs and wanted to break out on their own.

"There's plenty of opportunity out there for good, well-trained electricians – especially for motivated students who just need the support and information to give them the confidence to follow their dreams. IBEW 11 has such good members – they're so enthusiastic. We've done 15 trainings here – the most of any local in the country," Koblinsky said.

And the results speak for themselves. Last year, five members started their own businesses out of the class.

"Growing from within is the best and easiest way to grow our market share and grow our union. In order to get more work and more opportunities, we need more signatory contractors," added Corona.

IBEW 11 Contractor Organizer Ben Frank, who has helped coordinate the training for the past three years, says there's nothing like this training for members who want to take the next step. "I think it's one of the best programs Local 11 does. It gives members insight into the business side of the industry. It's a real eye opener for many of them."

"There's nothing better than having one of our members become a signatory to the local. Their drive and ambition are exactly what our industry needs. They will put our members to work. We're already seeing calls come into the hall from these newly organized contractors."

"And we're here to support them every step of the way." They learn about cost and productivity. They also learn about all these business opportunities in these emerging markets: solar, EV charging, fuel cells, battery storage, the residential market and lighting retrofit."

It's exciting to watch them follow their dreams and become their own boss, Frank notes.

And for the students, it's important for them to know they have 24/7 access to Frank and the other organizers. "I tell them, I might as well have a cubicle in your office!" Frank laughs.

It's very gratifying to help turn members' dreams into reality, Frank says. "We've already invested in our apprenticeship training. Now we're reaping the benefits of all those years of training, knowing the ins and outs of the industry and a good network of people to rely on. We give them the support and structure, which gives members the confidence to succeed."



## What Our Contractor Business Course Grads are Saying

"My wife and I want to express our deepest gratitude for what you do and for sharing all your knowledge and experience to help us achieve our goals. We also want to thank Business Manager Robert Corona and the organizing team for making it possible and for the support they provided in developing the talent within our local."

– MELVIS & FELIPE LAMASPADILLA

"You're a rockstar, Matt!!! Thanks for all the Knowledge!! I'll be emailing you very soon. I'm about to bid two solar jobs that I went to see today. Two weeks ago, I would have not even thought of doing that."

– VINCE RUBALCAVA  
President  
Volt Electric

"In a few months, there will be job calls out of the hall for a new union shop taking over the solar game. I'm definitely motivated and excited for the future."

– JAVIER VEGA

"Matt, the class was killer! You'll be getting a nice Xmas gift once we make our first million \$ off solar, which won't take long. Thanks to this class!"

– ENDY SEGURA  
Owner  
Energen Electric



# DISTRICT REPORTS

## DISTRICT 2



**Gary Tomlin**

My Brothers and Sisters,  
I hope everyone and their families are doing well.

Aldridge Electric has been awarded a \$28 million project for the Port of Long Beach. The project is called ITS Pier G South Slip Fall. It will consist of new duct banks, manholes, high mast lighting, substations etc. This should start in the fourth quarter of this year.

The Hard Rock Hotel that will be built in downtown Long Beach on Pine Ave adjacent to the Convention Center was awarded to Rosendin and should start later this year or early 2026.

CSI was awarded the new 3 story project at Cal State. Long Beach and should be under way by early summer.

Long Beach will be hosting 12 events for the upcoming 2028 Olympics, so keep an eye out for future work on these.

I'd like to close by letting our IBEW family know that one of our fellow D2 Brothers passed away last month. Paul Revilla you will be missed.

Work in the area is still slow, but we have seen a slight increase recently. Newtron is calling for the Glendale Power Plant.

As a reminder, D4 unit meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. at the D4 Hall, please join us. The D4 welfare committee meets the last Tuesday of each month at the D4 Hall, if you need assistance, please contact me.

Stay safe and be well. Always feel free to reach out via email, phone or text.

## DISTRICT 6



**Tommy Zielonski**

Greetings from District 6 Brothers and Sisters.

We recently received good news about two upcoming Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) projects coming to D6. One project will be in Irwindale and the other will be in the City of Industry. These battery systems store electricity from the grid and release it when needed, often during periods of high demand or to provide battery backup. BESS projects are increasingly important as more renewable energy sources like solar and wind become integrated into the grid, as they store excess energy and make the grid more stable. These jobs should help with the "blackouts" we have locally.

As projected, these two projects will employ around 150 of our members during the construction phase. Cupertino will be the contractor in Industry, and plan to put in calls later this year. ETI offers the Energy Storage & Microgrid Training & Certification class for members looking to get training in this type of work. To sign up for classes please visit laett.com.

As always, give me a call at 909 924-4343 with any questions.

## SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS



**Deon J. Mayes**

Sisters and Brothers,

Congratulations to the recent graduates of the apprenticeship program, including the new Journey-Level members from the Sound & Communications program. Your dedication, perseverance and commitment to the craft have brought you to this milestone! With this milestone comes great responsibility. Take pride in your craft, represent our Union and our industry with integrity, and always remember to lift as you climb by mentoring those coming up behind you; share your knowledge and experience, and help build up those following in your footsteps.

A huge thank you to the nearly 100 members who showed up strong at our April Unit meeting! Business Manager Robert Corona and President Alton Wilkerson shared exciting updates about pension options they're currently exploring for Unit 9 members. For a unit that's long pushed for access to a pension, this is a major development. Stay tuned for further details.

## CECW



**Jackie Waltman**

Dear Members,

Please ensure that you are staying on top of your class requirements to maintain the validity of your ET card. To avoid any disruptions in your work schedule, it is crucial to renew your card at least three months prior to its expiration date. Proactive renewal will help ensure that you can continue to accept job calls without any interruptions.

Make it a priority to regularly update your availability on the Daybook to ensure you remain eligible for job calls. It is important to sign in on the days you are willing to work, as this will enhance your chances of being selected for a job.

As always, the safety of our members is our top priority. We ask that you continue to adhere to all safety protocols, whether on the job site or during training.

It's an honor to be your Business Representative and to serve you. It is a privilege to serve as your Business Representative and to represent you.

## DISTRICT 4



**Brett Moss**

Brothers and Sisters,  
Greetings from District Four. I hope this report finds you and your families well.

A-M Electric has picked up two new Industrial Tech Buildings at Pierce College, look for calls May/June for this project.

The Rams Project in the West Valley has been featured in the news but no contractor has been named yet. This looks like it will dramatically change the look of Warner Center.



## I-105 Express Lanes

Metro just kicked off construction on the ExpressLanes project; a nearly \$800 million investment in LA's transportation future. The electrical work will be done by IBEW Local 11 signatory contractors, using skilled and trained IBEW Intelligent Transportation Systems Electrical Workers. IBEW Local 11 Business Manager Robert Corona and ITS Business Representative Chris Longoria were on hand to show our union's support as the project gets rolling.



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# ORGANIZING REPORTS

## DISTRICT 4



**Ruben Mendoza**

In March, I attended the Siemens Mobility Plant (Commuter Train) along with Kristian Mendoza, our Manufacturing Organizer, to help unionize the plant. We worked alongside IBEW Local 1245 and other Locals from across the country including the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. From door knocking to having town hall meetings and answering questions about becoming union. We did daily picketing and leafletting at the entrance of the job site. It was a long hard-fought campaign, unfortunately we came up short.

Siemens used scare tactics, advising workers that they would be fired for attending meet & greets. Siemens is currently under investigation by the NLRB. The fight is not over for these workers and IBEW will be there to unionize the Siemens workers.

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**"We build our political power by defending working people and our community."**

**Mark M. McDermott**

## DISTRICT 2



**Myra Hildreth**

Hello, Brothers and Sisters from South Bay.

Recently, the organizing team attended the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners meeting regarding the Final Environmental Impact Report for the ECOCEM Low-Carbon Cement Processing Facility project, Berths 191-194 within the Port of Los Angeles, on the backland adjacent to existing berthing facilities. The Harbor Commissioners passed it unanimously with no opposition. This project will create 200 construction jobs at a minimum and 400+ construction jobs at peak. We have an IBEW agreement for construction and maintenance with ECOCEM. This process has been 10 years in the making and is a \$180 Million project. Thank you to our brother Tommy Farvae for the hard work and dedication towards completing this agreement.

Organizing continued with job walks at non-union job sites in District 2 last month. The recent job walks have resulted in several new organizing potential

candidates contacting me through the connections made in the field and word of mouth from current candidates.

April was Stress Awareness Month. Learning to cope with stress and finding healthy ways to deal with situations can go a long way toward living a healthy and positive life.

## SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS



**Citlali Castillo**

Greetings Unit 91!

The job calls have been coming in and keeping us busy.

Just like in the field, there are many exciting things happening for the Sound & Comm unit within our local. Now is the time to get involved and stay informed.

Being part of our unit meetings can give us as members a great tool when going to work, coming across those unrepresented workers that may be misinformed. There is never a bad time to give some good information, especially when we are out in the field doing the same kind of work. As members we represent our local in every way, knowledge is power, and power is in numbers.

Come to a meeting and find out exactly what's going on, take the opportunity to know more about our unit.

Stay safe!

## DISTRICT 6



**Chris Rosales**

Howdy Brothers and Sisters from District 6! I hope everyone had a blessed Easter Sunday.

I am excited to report on my recent trip to Sacramento, where I joined representatives from the California State Association of Electrical Workers to advocate for vital issues

affecting our members and their communities. This yearly trip to the state capital serves not only as an opportunity to engage with elected members but also highlights the importance of having trained and skilled union members in positions of influence.

The journey to Sacramento is much more than just a formality, it is a great opportunity for union delegates to assert their collective power. During the meetings with assembly members, union representatives share their experiences, concerns, and suggestions regarding workforce policies, training programs, and labor rights. This face-to-face interaction creates a direct line of communication between those in the field and the policymakers who create laws that support skilled training and workforce development necessary for the industry's future.

## CONTRACTOR ORGANIZER



**Benjamin Frank**

As work has slowed recently, we've seen a growing interest among our members in pursuing the path of business ownership. There's nothing more exciting than helping our members turn their dream of becoming a contractor into reality.

We're proud to share we had our Contractor Class May 5th-9th at our Pasadena office. This class is a once-a-year opportunity that offers valuable insights and support you won't find anywhere else. Reach out to the Organizing Department at [Organizing@ibew11.org](mailto:Organizing@ibew11.org) for more information.

Despite the current work picture, we've seen tremendous success this year in signing new contractors. These new signatory contractors have already begun placing calls in the hall across all classifications, creating more job opportunities for our members.

If you've previously worked for a non-union electrical contractor that you believe would be a strong partner with IBEW, feel free to reach out—I'd be happy to speak with them about how our members can help bring their projects to life.

**Local 11**

**Recovery Group**

**WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.**

A GROUP OF IBEW MEMBERS DEDICATED TO ASSISTING AND UPLIFTING OTHERS IN THE RECOVERY PROCESS, AS WELL AS HELPING TO REDUCE THE STIGMA SURROUNDING SEEKING HELP FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

MONTHLY MEETING TO DISCUSS OUR GOALS AND SHARE INFORMATION, FOLLOWED BY A 12 STEP MEETING FOR THOSE INTERESTED

3RD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
5:00 PM  
DISTRICT 4 HALL  
400 CHATSWORTH DRIVE  
SAN FERNANDO, CA 91340





## L.A. UNION MEMBERS MARK MAY DAY

**T**housands of union members and immigrant rights groups flooded the streets of downtown Los Angeles on May 1 to commemorate International Workers' Day, better known as May Day.

More than a dozen Local 11 members joined their union brothers and sisters at the rally

and march that began at 9 am at LA Live, near Crypto Arena, then marched several miles to the Federal Building where the ICE offices are located.

Rally goes in Los Angeles heard from labor and immigrant group speakers who were demanding living wages, safe workplaces

and respect for immigrant rights, particularly in light of the Trump administration's drastic immigration policies and recent mass deportations.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS](#)



## VEEP

### Opening Doors: Women Veterans Invited to Join Electrical Training Class

**I**n order to attract more women into the trades, IBEW Local 11 will be conducting an All-Women's Veteran Electrical Entry Program (VEEP) Pre-Apprenticeship class from Oct. 6 - Dec. 5. Mike Kufchak, Director of Veterans Affairs for Local 11, noted that while Local 11 has conducted a total of nine VEEP classes to date with up to 25 applicants in each class, only four women have attended any of the classes.

Local Union 11 has constantly strived to increase the population of women in our trade, but it has proved to be a hard demographic to recruit. The sisters currently in the trade are constantly excelling to new heights. They hold titles that are equal and equivalent to those of their

male counterparts within the Electrical Trade.

VEEP provides veterans with direct entry into the apprenticeship program, provided they successfully complete the Pre-Apprenticeship Program. Local 11 has opted to expand their outreach that targets women, by creating an opportunity for Women Veterans by conducting an All-Women Class, according to Robert Corona, Business Manager/Financial Secretary of Local 11.

For this All-Women VEEP Class to be successful, the local will be casting a net both far and wide to get the word out. We will be doing active recruitment on military installations, but more importantly we will be asking our members to help spread the

word. They know veterans who are family members, friends or have acquaintances who know veterans looking for a career after their military service.

"We have the ability through the Electrical Training Alliance to place these veteran women throughout the nation, not just here in Los Angeles," Kufchak said.

Eligibility requirements consist of the following: VEEP is a Department of Defense Approved Skill Bridge and Career Skills Program for those women still on active duty and are within their last 120 days of military service and will be in lieu of a favorable discharge. For Veterans who have already departed military service, they are eligible for up to 5 years from their

discharge date to the date of filing an application. Additionally, they need to possess either an Honorable or General Under Honorable Conditions Discharge displayed on their DD 214

Those interested should visit the [www.in2veep.com](http://www.in2veep.com) website or they can contact **Mike Kufchak** directly at [Kufchak@ibew11.org](mailto:Kufchak@ibew11.org) or by calling him direct at **951-830-7874**.

**ALL-FEMALE VETERANS ELECTRICAL ENTRY PROGRAM - VEEP**  
OFFERED BY IBEW Local Union 11 - Los Angeles, CA.  
October 6th - December 5th, 2025  
A 9-week hybrid pre-apprenticeship approved for DOD SkillBridge and CSP.  
Graduates who successfully complete the program qualify for direct entry into an IBEW apprenticeship.

**Contact**  
Mike Kufchak  
Director of Veterans Affairs,  
IBEW Local 11  
[Kufchak@ibew11.org](mailto:Kufchak@ibew11.org)  
951-830-7874  
Scan to contact Mike Kufchak via email

**No prior electrical experience required. All military branches welcome.**

- Approved for DOD SkillBridge and CSP
- Applicants must have separated from military service within the last 5 years
- 9-week hybrid course (online and in-person)
- Successful completion leads to direct entry into an IBEW apprenticeship