

Covid – 19 Changes for Local 309

To the Membership of IBEW Local 309;

In these ever changing days that we are living with due to the Corona Virus. I would hope that we have patience with new procedures that we are trying to implement to limit the exposure to the staff here at the Local Union.

I don't want to close the office and cause economic harm to our employees or cause to much disruption with our members. But until things can get under control I would like to limit it's spread. We will accept people signing up referrals by phone to the agents that handle your contracts. We will have a station set up in the main vestibule to handle walk in registrations for referrals. And we will still handle job assignments in the same manner we a currently doing here at the Local.

I've had questions about International Dues payments. These payments still have to be collected by the Union Hall. It would help immensely if people would have their dues directly paid through their personal bank accounts. This would eliminate people becoming delinquent and behind on their dues. This can be handle by filling out the proper paperwork that the office can provide. You can still send us a check in the amount due and we will send your statement to the address we have on file. We are also looking into setting up the office to take credit card by phone. This will be something new to the Local but it can also be very helpful to the membership.

We are also looking to implement things at the benefit office to limit the exposure to the staff. You can still apply for vacation and we can still send these checks via mail. We will have vacation forms available in the main walk in area at the hall that can be filled out and one of the agents can sign and deliver them to the staff. Also, Income Security and A&S checks can be mailed.

Union meetings and Executive Board meetings will continue at this time. As for Union Meetings we've already implemented that they are not mandatory for apprentices in all classifications. We will need to follow the guidelines of less that 50 people in attendance and will try to space the seating to accommodate the 6 feet spacing for social interacting. These may all sound silly but until we have containment, I feel it is necessary.

We are already implementing some of our trust meetings be done via phone conferencing and other meetings the agents have to attend. The Local Union will still have an Election of Officers that will start in May with the selection of candidates and its Election of Officers in June.

I ask that the membership have patience and cooperation with what we are trying to accomplish. This is truly something no one expected and we will survive these trying times.

In Solidarity,

Tim Evans
Business Manager
IBEW 309