

DAILY TUESDAY

JULY 19, 2016



42ND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Photos by: Luis Gomez; Tessa Berg

▲ AFSCME Pres. Lee Saunders Excites Delegates

In Saunders' keynote address, he said, "the future is ours for the taking!"

HIGHLIGHTS

Entertainment

6 – 10 a.m.

"Remember the Titans," "By the River I Stand," Las Vegas Mass Choir

Booths

Las Vegas Convention Center, Central Hall

Convention Reconvenes

10 a.m., Las Vegas Convention Center, Central Hall

Keynote address:

Laura Reyes, International Secretary-Treasurer, AFSCME

Program: AFSCME Strong

Program: AFSCME for Hillary

Speaker: Secretary Hillary Clinton

Committee Meetings

Upon recess of General Session
See Delegate Guide for locations



Is There a Surprise for You on the Buddy Button Board?

Have you bought a Buddy Button for your favorite union sister or brother? These buttons can be purchased at the PEOPLE Booth for just \$1. Watch the board throughout the week to see if there's a button waiting for you!

President Saunders Fires Up Convention with Message of "Never Quit"

AFSCME Pres. Lee Saunders and thousands of delegates, alternates and guests rocked the Las Vegas Convention Center, on Monday, with deafening chants of "We Never Quit" — igniting a fire for the urgent work in the months and years ahead.

"To those who try to scapegoat public service workers, demeaning and denigrating us, questioning our professionalism and blaming us for fiscal recklessness, what do we say? To anyone who questions whether AFSCME is still up to the task of making America happen, what do we say?" Saunders roared. Delegates thundered back: "We never quit!"

Saunders reminded delegates of the progress made over the last four years, including an organizing campaign that to date has seen nearly 340,000 fee payers and non-members sign up with the union and a PEOPLE political action program that is bigger than ever. But the clearest evidence of AFSCME's improved strength, Saunders said, can be found in stories of members like Dana Norris who — through the Anchorage Municipal Employees Association, Local 16 — helped restore collective bargaining rights for herself and her co-workers, and a year later won \$64 million in wages and maintained health benefits.

Saunders also urged delegates to knock on doors and make phone calls for the upcoming Presidential election, casting it as a choice between Hillary Clinton, an "unstoppable champion for working families" and Donald Trump, an "unstable charlatan" who made his fortune exploiting them. "I know whose side I'm on. I'm with her," said Saunders.

While acknowledging tough challenges still facing AFSCME members, particularly in Illinois and Connecticut, Saunders said that AFSCME has not only survived the attacks of the last several years, but that our union is thriving.

Saunders also committed to do more to tell the stories of public service workers. "We're going to make sure America hears your stories...feels your grit and determination," he told delegates as he unveiled a powerful new advertisement that captures AFSCME members' pride and passion on the job.

"Sisters and brothers, the clouds have lifted," Saunders declared. "The future is ours for the taking! And our plan is simple: Never quit!"

Encouraged, delegates expressed how Saunders made them feel empowered. "He can bring a room together. I don't care if it's two people or 2,000," said Barbara Zachreson-Senick, Local 1565 (Connecticut Council 4). "He's a good man," she said. Sherman Baisa, Local 646 (Hawaii United Public Workers), put it more simply. "I'd follow him to hell and back."

Honoring the Fallen

Our Convention began Monday with a somber moment of silence honoring peace officers and other victims of gun violence in Baton Rouge, Dallas, St. Paul and Orlando. Flanked by IVPs and Judicial Panel members, IVP Sal Luciano urged delegates to "resolve to continue making our union a force for peace, safety and strength in all our communities."



▲ AFSCME IVPs in a moment of silence.

Photo by: Luis Gomez

Text "Never Quit" to 237263

afscme.org/convention



42ND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Elections: What You Need to Know

Delegates will elect the International president, the International secretary-treasurer and International vice presidents (IVPs) from each AFSCME legislative district. Nominations for president and secretary-treasurer will be taken today from the Convention floor. The Convention will then recess, and delegates from each legislative district will go to the room assigned to their legislative district caucus to nominate candidates for IVP. A list of the room assignments will be available at delegates’ tables on the Convention floor.

In cases in which there are more nominees than offices to be filled, elections will be held, with the names of nominees posted in the Convention Center’s main hall. BallotPoint will conduct these elections on Thursday, July 21, from 7 – 10 a.m., in Central Hall C2 of the Las Vegas Convention Center. If a run-off is required for any election, it will be conducted on Friday, July 22, from 7 – 9:30 a.m. in Central Hall C2.

Shuttle service on Thursday will begin at 6 a.m. for elections. If there is a runoff election, shuttles to the Las Vegas Convention Center will begin again at 6 a.m on Friday.

Shuttle Service Schedule

Shuttles between the Convention Center and hotels will pick up and drop off from the Blue Lot Door #9 from 6 – 10 a.m. and 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

It’s Gettin’ Hot in Here! Grab Your Water Bottle



With temps rising into the triple digits, it’s absolutely critical to stay hydrated. Don’t wait until you’re thirsty to drink. Keep a water bottle with you when you’re outdoors. Try to drink at least 16 ounces of water every hour during any outdoor physical activity. Avoid caffeine and alcohol until you’re in a cool place — both can speed dehydration. Visit the Wellness Booth for more tips. Be well! Stay strong!



Photo by: Culinary Workers Union Local 226

Let’s Get Rally Ready

Tomorrow we’re joining forces with Culinary Workers Union Local 226 to demand a fair contract agreement from Donald Trump for the workers of Trump International Hotel. This will be an outdoor march, so leave your personal items in your hotel room and wear cool, comfortable clothing. Water and Powerade will be available onsite. A limited supply of sun screen will be available at the Wellness Booth.



Photo by: Tessa Berg

▲ Gregory Johnson (MD Local 266)

Free College: An Exclusive New Benefit for AFSCME Members

AFSCME Pres. Lee Saunders on Monday announced an exclusive new benefit for AFSCME members modeled after a partnership between AFSCME Ohio affiliates OAPSE, OCSEA and Council 8 and Eastern Gateway Community College. The program allows AFSCME members in the state to earn an online associate degree from the college at no cost.

The plan is to take the Ohio program nationwide, working with affiliates to make the benefit available to members across the country.

“I was happy to learn from Mr. Saunders that the union is going to make that available to everyone – that employees and their immediate family members are entitled to free education, taking online courses,” said Cynthia Stenson, a member of Local 768 (New York DC 37). “What it really means to us as members is we can get more education and better serve” our communities.

More information about the benefit is available at the AFSCME Free College Benefit Booth. Stop by today and learn more.



Photo by: Clyde Weiss

▲ Cynthia Stenson, Local 768 (New York DC 37)

Let’s Rock & Roll on the AGT Stage

Ready to take the stage and rock out for the union cause? If you haven’t already, pick up your pledge sheet at the AGT mini stage near the PEOPLE Booth. You’ll need to collect pledge donations by the end of the day tomorrow to qualify, so don’t delay!

AFSCME in Action

Don’t miss “AFSCME in Action: Building AFSCME Strong Local Unions” tomorrow, from 7 – 9:15 a.m. These Convention-wide breakout sessions will help make local unions AFSCME Strong. Each delegation will be assigned to a breakout room to dig in on direct action organizing. You will gain knowledge and skills to plan and execute a workplace action, using a variety of tactics to win on issues that matter to you and your coworkers. All delegates, alternates and guests are welcome and encouraged to attend. Check the signs for room locations.



Photo by: Tessa Berg

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