

# DAILY THURSDAY

## JULY 21, 2016



42ND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Photos by: Tessa Berg

### ▲ AFSCME Dumps Trump

AFSCME stood in solidarity with their sisters and brothers of the Culinary Workers Union.

## HIGHLIGHTS

#### Elections

7 – 10 a.m., Central Hall C2

#### Workshop

7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

#### Booths

Las Vegas Convention Center, Central Hall

#### Convention Reconvenes

10 a.m.

#### PEOPLE T-shirt Day

#### Programs:

- AFSCME Strong Political Action Quiz
- Never Quit Service Awards
- Never Quit Innovation Awards
- PEOPLE Awards

#### AFSCME's Got Talent

Upon recess, Main Hall

### Resolutions

Delegates on Wednesday passed five resolutions:

Strengthening Long-Term Services and Supports (14); Preventing Workplace Violence (16); Repeal the ACA's Excise Tax on High Cost Health Plans (23); Increase the Minimum Wage (3); and AFSCME and SEIU: Unstoppable Unions that Never Quit (53)

## Delegates Rally at Trump Hotel

More than 2,000 AFSCME delegates took it to the streets Wednesday, standing in solidarity with Culinary Workers demanding a fair contract at the Trump International Hotel.

Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165 members who work at the Trump International Hotel won their union elections last December, and the National Labor Relations Board certified their victory in March. Yet Trump International has refused to begin contract negotiations and has conducted an aggressive anti-union campaign, including firings and intimidation of union supporters.

Though several members experienced discomfort from the excessive heat, AFSCME delegates demonstrated that we won't stop fighting for all workers' rights – whether ours or our sisters and brothers from other unions.

"I'm so happy to see you guys," said Geoconda Arguello Kline, who started out as a hotel worker and is the secretary-treasurer of Local 226.

Kline said of Trump "He doesn't respect working people...who make him money every single day. These workers here, they had an election. They won. We're going to fight and we're never going to give up. He's been refusing and denying the rights of the working people... Mr. Trump, you're fighting against the immigrants... you're fighting against this country. And right now, the country will fight against you too."

IVP Kathryn Lybarger pledged AFSCME's support. "It's the heat we're turning up on Donald Trump. AFSCME is proud to stand in solidarity with you," she said. "As long as Trump continues to undermine basic fairness for working people, the 1.6 million members of AFSCME stand with the Culinary Union to urge Trump to treat his employees with respect and negotiate a fair contract."

## Rev. Dr. Barber: "I Came to AFSCME to Call Code!"

The Rev. Dr. William Barber II challenged public workers and their labor unions to be part of the moral revival of our nation.

"I'm here with you today because we need a moral revolution of values to address the moral crisis at the heart of our democracy right now," he said.

That crisis is nothing new, Dr. Barber said, recalling the Civil Rights struggle led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. King knew that racial and economic injustice are intertwined, and he stood with AFSCME striking sanitation workers just a few days before he was killed.

But the achievements of the Civil Rights movement produced a backlash. Some people "developed code language to talk about race without talking about race," Dr. Barber added.

For nearly 50 years, the strategy was to blame minorities for our country's problems, Dr. Barber said. And Donald Trump's fearmongering continues that. So do steps taken by state legislatures, with the help of the U.S. Supreme Court, to suppress the minority vote.

They're trying to suppress the vote "because they know the power of us coming together."

Referring to recent outbreaks of gun violence, Barber said, "We have to stand against violence and death, period."

If our moral crisis is like a heart problem, he concluded, we need to "call code," that is, revive the moral heart of our nation. And AFSCME can play a role in that.

"I came by AFSCME to call code!" Barber said. "It's time for the labor movement and the Civil Rights movement ... to realize we are the moral defibrillator of our time."



Photo by: Tessa Berg

Text "Never Quit" to 237263

[afscme.org/convention](http://afscme.org/convention)





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## Our Voices

Determination. Pride. Commitment. That’s what you hear when you listen to our “Our Voices,” a program featuring AFSCME members fighting for fairness and justice in their communities.

Deb Hussey, a 911 call operator and member of Local 189 in Oregon, talked about the problem of understaffed 911 centers. “When you’re fielding 911 calls, there’s no worse feeling than having to put people on hold,” she said. “But understaffing at our Multnomah County 911 center has forced us to, putting lives at risk.”

Quentin Hutchins, a school bus operator and a member of Local 1644 in Atlanta, speaks out because fighting for fairness is in his heart and soul. He discussed Georgia’s voter ID law, one of the strictest in the country. “Thousands of voters were given the wrong information about where to vote,” Hutchins said, adding that those who arrived at the correct voting site were not allowed to vote, even if they were in line before the polls closed. “We cannot sit silent while the forces against us try to chip away at the progress that was made,” Hutchins said.

Local 3437 sister Sharonda Johnson, of Flint, Michigan, knows firsthand about the importance of making her voice heard. She spoke about her city’s unsafe water, and the danger it poses to children. “You know what happens when children are exposed to lead, what it does to their brains?” she asked. “They can’t control their emotions. Their IQs can drop. It affects their school work, their families.”

“Why did this happen?” asked Johnson, referring to the root causes of water contamination in Flint. “Because the same people who want to tear down our union because they don’t like public service workers put an unelected, unaccountable manager in charge of the city where I live with my family.”

“We have to fight,” she said, “and we have to win,” Hussey said.



▲ (from left to right): Sharonda Johnson (MI Local 3437), Deb Hussey (OR Local 189), Quentin Hutchins (GA Local 1644)

Photo by: Tessa Berg

## Delegates Resolve to Work More Closely with SEIU

Delegates on Wednesday approved a resolution to voluntarily partner more closely with SEIU. Resolution 53 calls for AFSCME and SEIU to find ways to jointly build power for working people, including more closer coordination of organizing, political and communications efforts. As President Saunders noted in his Monday address, the two unions spent millions of dollars fighting each other in the past, allowing politicians to play each union off the other.

## Royal Flush Winner

Aida Diaz Ramos of Local 3889 (PR Council 95) is our Royal Flush Winner. She collected an ace, king, queen, jack and ten over the course of the week and won a \$100 gift certificate to the PEOPLE Booth.



## Change Lives with the Gift of Food

Join us Friday at 8 a.m., in rooms N101 – N102, to package meals for the children of Southern Nevada. Three Square’s BackPack for Kids program provides a lifeline for hungry children by supplying a bag of shelf-stable ready-to-eat meals and snack options for children who might otherwise go without during weekends and long breaks from school.

## AFSCME’s Got Talent Finalists:

Immediately after Convention recesses, come on over to the AGT stage for the contestants’ final performances. Vote for your favorite performer! The final contestants are Sharice McCain, Local 3800 (MN Council 5); Nilsa Gómez Jiménez, Local 3889 (PR Council 95); Cedric Williams, Local 4041 (NV); Mark Woods, Local 2218 (NJ Council 71); Bert Reynolds, Local 970 (WA Council 28); and alternate Rhonda Buchanan, Local 843 (WA Council 28). The winner will perform during tomorrow’s Convention!

## Trivia Notice

It’s time to test your political IQ! We’ll have some fun in the Convention hall today playing AFSCME Political Trivia.

If you want to join in, you’ll need your cell phone so you can text your answers. Just text the word “QUIZ” to **237263**, and you’ll be ready to go when the game starts!

## Workshop Schedule

Thursday Workshops: 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

**Beyond Bias: How We Think, Talk and Act on Race and Difference**  
(also offered in Spanish)  
North Hall, Level Two, Rooms N238

**Bring It on Home: Winning Back Outsourced Work**  
North Hall, Level One, Room N112

**Courageous Conversations**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N235

**I Just Got Elected – Now What?**  
(also offered in Spanish)  
North Hall, Level One, Room N111

**#We’reWithHer – AFSCME Faces and Voices for Hillary**  
North Hall, Level One, Room N103

**Knowing Who’s Who: Workplace Mapping**  
North Hall, Level Two, Rooms N234

**Lifting the Curtain on “Dark Money”**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N239

**Making Your Case: Persuasive Public Speaking**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N243

**Member to Member: Turning Issues into Political Action**  
North Hall, Level One, Room N115

**Organizing AFSCME Retirees**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N231

**Retirement Security for All**  
North Hall, Level Two, Rooms N223

**Showing Member Power at the Bargaining Table**  
North Hall, Level One, Room N114

**Social Media Savvy**  
North Hall, Level One, Room N110

**Speaking Up When Oppression Happens**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N225

**Stopping Privatization**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N242

**We Never Quit: Communicating the AFSCME Brand**  
North Hall, Level One, Room N113

**Wow, What a Great Meeting!**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N241

**Your Rights, Employer Responsibilities & OSHA**  
North Hall, Level Two, Room N237