



## The Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Has a Message for YOU!

### County Employees Offered at Least 94% Less Than Grocery Workers; After Weeks Pondering Union's Proposal to Honor the Juneteenth Holiday, County Still Has NO Position!

**A**fter weeks of negotiations for a successor Fringe Benefit Memorandum of Understanding, the County refused to appropriately recognize our front line sacrifices during the pandemic and instead proposed that we forgo our contractual right to protect health coverage for County employees who participate in the Kaiser and Cigna medical plans in exchange for as little as 21¢/hour in Hazard Bonus, when in Feb. 2021 the Board of Supervisors [passed an ordinance](#) requiring \$5/hour 'hero pay' for grocery workers.

“This Bonus does not meaningfully address the hard work of doctors, nurses, mental health workers, first responders, and countless other County employees who kept the County running and took care of residents during the pandemic,” said Blaine Meek, Chair of the Coalition of County Unions. “The economy is booming, the County of L.A. has more than \$1 Billion in reserves, and the Federal government has allocated billions in COVID relief funding. We simply cannot understand why the Board of Supervisors would consider their own employees’ work taking care of County residents to be worth so much less than grocery workers.”

The County of Los Angeles has received [nearly \\$2 billion in funding](#) from the [Federal government for relief](#) to support front line heroes and other impacts from the pandemic. Further, economists at UCLA’s Anderson Quarterly Forecast are predicting that California’s economy is [poised for a ‘euphoric’ rebound](#). “In the nation and in California, “we are about to have one of the best years of economic growth that we’ve had since World War II,” said Leo Feler, the UCLA Anderson Forecast’s senior economist. “We’re looking at a boom time for the U.S. economy.”

On June 17, 2021, [President Biden signed legislation](#) commemorated the end of slavery by making Juneteenth a Federal holiday. On June 21, 2021, the CCU simply proposed that the parties negotiate a specific date for Juneteenth as a County holiday – the County has not responded to date.

“When Congress and the President took a matter of days to recognize this as a Federal holiday, why is the County still pondering our proposal after three weeks, a week after our contract expired?” asked Jonathan Byrd, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Chief Steward, AFSCME Local 685.

## About the Coalition of County Unions

The 14 member Unions united in the [Coalition of County Unions](#) collectively represent more than 35,000 men and women employed by the County of Los Angeles. United for more than 30 years and affiliated with the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, the CCU is the members' voice on County-wide matters such as health insurance, vacation pay, retirement, and many other matters that impact all County employees and their families – not just those in an individual County Department. Affiliated unions include:

- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
  - Union of American Physicians and Dentists, AFSCME, AFL-CIO
  - AFSCME District Council 36, AFL-CIO
  - AFSCME Local 685, AFL-CIO
- Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs, MEBA, AFL-CIO
- Association of Public Defender Investigators, MEBA, AFL-CIO
- California Association of Professional Employees, MEBA, AFL-CIO
- California Federation of Interpreters, CWA Local 39000, AFL-CIO
- Committee of Interns and Residents, SEIU, 1957
- Los Angeles County Firefighters Local 1014, AFL-CIO
- Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association, MEBA, AFL-CIO
- Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO
- International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 501, AFL-CIO
- Professional Peace Officers Association, MEBA, AFL-CIO
- Teamsters Local 911