



ARCHES to Create Thousands of Jobs Across California

By Grant Slater

OCTOBER 2023

BEW LOCAL 1

\$1.2^{billion in federal} Clean Energy grants are coming to California, thanks to IBEW 11, working in partnership with the State Building Trades Council, to drive investment in dozens of green hydrogen projects from Lancaster to Long Beach. This massive influx of funds will spur innovation, reduce carbon emissions and create thousands of union jobs in the coming years.

The federal government's nearly \$50 billion investment nationwide - one of the largest outlays for clean manufacturing and jobs in U.S. history – will create seven hydrogen hubs across the country. The Department of Energy funding flows directly from the \$1 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill passed into law by the Biden-Harris administration two years ago.

"This \$1.2 billion will leverage 10 times that in private and state funding, resulting in \$10 to \$13 billion in indirect investment spread across 31 projects," said Chris Hannan, the recently elected President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California. "This hub is going to provide thousands of great jobs for members of building trades unions as well as so many great opportunities for IBEW 11 members."

The Trades Council and IBEW 11 were founding members of The Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems, or ARCHES, which led the federal grant application.

ARCHES required each of the proposed projects to enter into a Project Labor Agreement, and the union mandate became a key part of securing the federal funds. The California Hydrogen Hub is *(Continued on page 4)*

Formerly Incarcerated Crew Answer Second Call Mission to Succeed

When Emergency Call Came in, Wolfpack Jumped into Action

By Oren Peleg

or the last two-anda-half years, a large, white cantilevered structure has been rising over 103rd Street in Watts, but in the final weeks of construction, it was a race against the clock. Construction managers needed to find a union electrician crew that could (Continued on page 5)



2nd Call electricians and construction foremen at the Watts site.



Union Night at Dodgers Stadium



Break Bread with Brothers This Thanksgiving

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BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE By Joël Barton

ETI Apprenticeship Training Facility Shines

Inside Wireman Apprentice, received the NABTU

Tradeswoman Hero Award last month for her dedication to her trade and her local union. Dannielle has been a tremendous asset and representative of IBEW 11, both on and off the job. She is involved in numerous clubs and associations of the local union, and we look forward to seeing her become one of our future leaders. IBEW 11 and the Building Trades believe in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and we are committed to continue to excel in our practice of inviting women and other minorities into our union.

Ending Poverty and Homelessness

Earlier this month, the ETI hosted the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor's Summit on Poverty and Homelessness. Over 500 labor leaders and elected officials attended to brainstorm solutions to this crisis. Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson, County Supervisor Janice Hahn and a special guest, recently appointed U.S. Sen. Laphonza Butler, were there to address the group.

Unfortunately, even with our great wages and benefits, some of our very own members face homelessness. No one should be without a place to call home in the United States of America. Many thanks to the ETI and IBEW 11 staff for making this event such a success – from the planning to the parking. A special shout out to the Local 11 staff who are always there and ready to help no matter the time of day, including weekends. Their selflessness and devotion to the membership is to be commended.

Health and Pension Plan Updates

Please check your mail in the coming weeks for important news and documents from the Southern California IBEW-NECA Trust Fund office. You can also go to the website for all the updates. Due to staggering increases facing our Health Plan, starting January 1, 2024, several changes will be implemented. The Trustees had several meetings to determine a course of action that would affect the least number of participants. Double digit increases from our providers resulted in some changes and monetary costs. To stave off some of those charges, the parties elected to redirect 70 cents from the Supplemental Unemployment Benefit Fund to the medical plan starting with contributions due from September work hours. This will not result in any impact on the supplemental unemployment plan.

Currently, if unemployed, journeymen receive \$20 per day and apprentices receive \$10. Apprentices in day school receive \$200 per week if they attend all classes and attain a passing grade. These benefits will continue throughout the life of the current contract, which ends in 2026.

All of this is contingent upon the next allocation, which is \$2 on January 29, 2024, and designating \$1 to the Health Plan. I encourage all members to vote for this allocation to prevent even more drastic cuts. You will receive your ballot via email in the next few weeks. So, be sure your email is current with the Local Union, and be sure to vote. I highly encourage everyone to vote to designate \$1 to continue to enjoy the great benefits our Health Plan provides.

I would like to remind everyone of an important holiday this November 11, Veterans Day. This day honors all those who served this great country in the armed services. IBEW 11 is committed to those brave young men and women by offering them entry into our apprenticeship programs. Through VEEP – Veterans Electrical Entry Program - we are able to attract the finest into our ranks and offer them a career. Reach out and thank a veteran for their service on this special day for protecting our freedom.

As always, I am honored to serve you as Business Manager/Financial Secretary.

In Solidarity, Joël Barton IBEW 11 Business Manager



President Rusty Roten

Vice President Eric Brown

Main offices of IBEW Local 11

reetings Sisters and

As the holiday

season approaches, I wish you all good

gather with friends

tidings as you

Brothers,

and family to celebrate. We are

indeed blessed to be members of

this great union, IBEW Local 11.

We are the envy of the country in

Our training facility is second to

none, and educators and legislators

are always amazed when they tour

the ETI. This past week, we had the

distinct honor to host the LA/OC

Building and Construction Trades

Council along with the President

North American Building Trades

Union represents over 3 million

construction craft professionals.

President McGarvey toured our

facility and spoke to the delegates. He

marveled at the training we provide

I'm pleased to report that our very

and how we offer men and women

careers in the electrical industry.

own Dannielle Lewis, a third year

IBEW 11 Apprentice Honored

of NABTU, Sean McGarvey. The

what we do here and everything

we are involved with.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT OUR City Brothers & Sisters' Pension Plan

rothers and Sisters, This month, I want to share some news from our affiliated union, the Engineers and Architects Association. The EAA has been affiliated with IBEW 11 since 2013, and their nearly 2,000 members hold dual membership in both organizations. They operate completely independently of Local 11. They are all L.A. city employees, and they negotiate their own contracts. As full-time city employees, they are covered by the LA City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) pension plan. I'm pleased to report that Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass recently appointed me to be one of seven commissioners on the LACERS trust fund board to help oversee their defined benefit plan, including retirement and survivor benefits. The fund currently controls more than \$21 billion in assets.

Not only are EAA members a part of that pension plan, but several of

the employees in the LACERS office are also EAA union members. My role on the LACERS trust fund board is voluntary. I don't get paid. We meet twice a month to help direct investment strategy and policy for the fund's assets while also monitoring their health insurance plans.

I am pleased to do my small part to help support the future of our EAA sisters and brothers. If you should happen to meet any of EAA's members, be sure to welcome them to IBEW Local Union 11.



If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact any of our agents or call any of our offices.

In Solidarity, Gaylord R. "Rusty" Roten President IBEW Local 11

10,000 Union Members Turn Out to Watch Dodgers Win BIG

Evening of Camaraderie, Fun, First Pitch

t was Union Night at the Dodgers on Saturday, Sept. 23, and some 1,000 IBEW 11 members joined thousands of other enthusiastic trade unionists to enjoy the game and watch their favorite home team smash their division rivals, the San Francisco Giants, in a 7-0 shutout. The 10,000 union members in the stands brought enthusiasm and labor magic to the winning game.

For the honorary first pitch, half a dozen union leaders took to the field, including IBEW 11 Business Manager Joël Barton, and waved to the fans. Pitching for Team Labor was LA Federation of Labor head Yvonne Wheeler, with USWW head Dave Huerta catching.

The evening was organized by the Labor 411 Foundation, which promotes over 11,000 Union Made products as part of its Buy Union, Buy American campaign for a stronger economy. www.labor411.org















October 2023

ARCHES Continued from page 1

expected to create 220,000 direct jobs - 130,000 of those in construction.

"There's no way we could have been successful in this effort without IBEW 11," Hannan said. "They were on it from day one."

IBEW had the ear of the federal government and was able to secure commitments for workers from the "most union friendly administration in American history, led by President Biden, who mentions the IBEW in every one of his labor speeches," IBEW 11 Business Manager Joël Barton said.

The ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles expect to see more than half a million dollars in immediate investment and hundreds of jobs for IBEW workers "right off the bat," Barton said.

In the pursuit of hydrogen funding, union leaders did not wait for politicians and policymakers to come to them for support. They surveyed the energy landscape, held their finger up to the winds of change, and determined that hydrogen technology provided the best route to infrastructure funding.

"From what we have investigated, it's clear that clean hydrogen is the future," Barton said. "We know the brothers and sisters of IBEW are already at the forefront of electrification. So, we've been the first to step out with the governor on his clean energy goals."

Years ago, IBEW helped gather a small group of stakeholders that would grow over time and



gain momentum, eventually becoming ARCHES. Tommy Faavae, from the union's Business Development department, said IBEW 11 and partners from the Los Angeles chapter of NECA were in the room when ARCHES was just a concept, before the coalition even had a chance to coalesce under a name.

As it became clear that there was money



to chase, Faavae and the rest of the coalition worked to build consensus among local leaders.

"The City of LA wanted to be big dog in the house and run their own application, but we wanted City of LA to get on board with us," he said. "It took a lot of politics, a lot of maneuvering."

With the coalition in place, the ARCHES team submitted California's application in April, and then, the wait began. With the announcement on October 13, Faavae and the rest of the team breathed a sigh of relief.

"I didn't know what to expect, but I wasn't expecting \$1.2 billion," Faavae said, laughing. "That sealed the deal. This is huge! It's huge for California, and it's huge for us as a union."

Negotiations have already begun to determine how the federal funds will be parsed out among projects across the state to meet ambitious climate goals, including a target to have cities like LA running on 100 percent renewable energy by 2035.

"Today we are moving from concept to reality - advancing clean, renewable hydrogen in California which is essential to meeting our climate goals," said Governor Gavin Newsom.

The emphasis will be to build out infrastructure that can generate and deliver clean hydrogen from renewable energy sources like wind and solar, Faavae said.

The new sources of hydrogen will flow to key emissions drivers in the state and sources of air pollution that are among the hardest to decarbonize like public transportation, heavy duty trucking, and port operations. The Port of Long Beach has set a goal to have zero-emission terminal equipment by 2030.

Alongside delivery infrastructure and port operations, the City of LA voted this year to retrofit the aging, gas-fired Scattergood Generating Station near El Segundo to generate electricity from hydrogen, an \$800 million project that the city plans to push through phase one of construction by 2029.

"Repowering those turbines to be hydrogen turbines, that's no small thing," Faavae said. "And it's something that we at IBEW are wellequipped and prepared to do."

2ND CALL Continued from page 1

come in and get the job done. Quickly. And on time. So, they put in a call to IBEW Local 11 member John "Big John" Harriel and The Wolfpack.

Big John and the Wolfpack crew are part of 2nd Call, an organization that shepherds formerly incarcerated men and women toward careers as union electricians with an emphasis on life skills courses and mutual support.

The crew sprang into action with five weeks left to check all the boxes and successfully turned Kaiser Permanente's Watts Medical Offices/Watts Counseling and Learning Center over to the new owner. The building will provide holistic medical services to a historically underserved part of Los Angeles.

"We were out there with integrity, and we all put it together, made it happen as a team," Big John said of his union brothers, many of whom are local to the area. "Every single person out there, with the exception of [one] guy, their families will be using this building."

The site's general foreman, Tony Vargas of Briggs Electric, had worked one time before on a project in West Covina with the Wolfpack members, and said he found nothing but exceptional, professional electricians who come to work every day and rise to their full potential.

So, he felt good about making that second call.

"I believe in second chances," Vargas said, explaining that he himself "has a history" and never believed he would become a general foreman. "For me, it's about getting everybody





involved, exploiting their potentials, and getting them to that next level."

2nd Call members meet every Thursday for two hours to "save lives," Big John said, through personal development and growth courses on issues like self-esteem, functional family dynamics, unresolved trauma, money management, and goal setting.

"We're a way of life, not a program," Big John said. "There's no beginning; there's no end."

Outside the Watts site, Big John gathered with five of his 2nd Call brothers who had served a collective 50 years behind bars.

For one of these men, Donald Trotter, an exgang member who served time, 2nd Call provided a new chance at life.

"Down at 2nd Call, they got a saying: we help you put down guns to pick up tape measurers," said Trotter, who is now a foreman with Morrow Meadows and IBEW member. "In order for a guy to succeed in life, you have to give him something to hold on to, something to look forward to. I look forward to waking up every day so I can feed my children and go to work. I got something to live for now. It's different."

Ultimately, helping Briggs and Morrow Meadows finish the Kaiser Permanente job allowed the organization to show what it's about, and to shine.

"Not only was it an opportunity to help a fellow contractor, but it also was an opportunity to use our skills as electricians to be a part of the solution, not the problem," Big John said. "Now, we're all building community instead of destroying it."

Members **Speak Out**

"I heard about it from one of the 2nd Call veterans - somebody who has been doing it for a long time, and it's helped him a lot. He referred me to the program fresh out of prison. I did almost 20 years. And it's worked out for me."



- NICHOLAS THOMPSON Journeyman

"2nd Call helped out one of my older children. It helped keep him out of the streets and give him direction, direction that I felt I wasn't able to give him. It also helped build our relationship



a little bit more. So, it's been beneficial in my life in a whole lot of ways, teaching us the strategies of how to work and get up on a regular basis, and to have integrity in doing what we do."

> - TYRONE BURGESS Journeyman

"Everybody thinks I'm an undercover cop, but they don't realize that actually I probably did more time than them. But everybody makes mistakes. Everybody messes up.



It's about how you get back on your feet."

- KEITH TOWNSEND Journeyman

"Without 2nd Call, I wouldn't be able to speak to other individuals that don't look like me. So, I appreciate the life skills that 2nd Call taught me: how to deal with other



individuals, how to get along with my peers, how not to see other individuals as threats, and how to work well with others."

> - DONALD TROTTER Foreman



DISTRICT 2 Gary Tomlin

Hello my brothers & sisters.

The work picture in District 2 is still a little slow with regards to any new projects starting up. Some of the ongoing projects are the San Pedro Market Place renovation, the Cerritos Community College Health & Science Building, the 5-year-plus Harbor UCLA project, and the Rosendin/Meadows joint venture. Currently, just the new parking structure is being built.

One new project is the 50-megawatt battery storage facility at the AES facility in Long Beach. Sargent Electric and Morrow Meadows will be the contractors.

Look in your Dispatch Halls for the new QR code from ETI to download your certifications onto your phone. We will take the electronic certifications on your phone for dispatching to a job call.

If I haven't been out to your project, call or text me the location so I can stop by. Our district's December meeting is Wednesday, December 6, and is tentatively scheduled at the Hollywood Sports Park in Bellflower.

DISTRICT 4 Marc Greenfield

Hello from the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and was able to spend quality time with their families.

We have good news on the work front. Mortenson will finally be getting its 80-megawatt battery storage facility in Santa Clarita started. That project should max out at around 50 journeymen and apprentices. Also, bid packages are due very soon for the 14-gate replacement project at Burbank Airport. There is a PLA on that project with San Fernando Valley zip codes.

In addition, there are two new buildings coming out of the ground at Valley College and a new one starting at CSUN. I am hoping for an update soon on the Metro Project with nine stations on Van Nuys Boulevard.

I would like to thank our District 4 Officers and Welfare Committee members for their hard work and dedication to our Local.

DISTRICT 6 Kelly Oliver

As your new District 6 Business Agent, I'm writing to you with a few words and an important reminder. Construction has become a strategic numbers game for contractors to be profitable. The important number to us as members is 44,500. We go to school to be journeymen union electricians, to receive benefits and eventually to be able to retire. But are we doing everything possible to be able to retire?

We must understand that, just because a project is being built, doesn't mean

they are going to load it with manpower. Employers believe that "less is more." Understand that a quality electrician is what is always needed. So, treat yourself as a professional, and you will be treated as such and stay employed longer. As a former superintendent, I always say that hours and dollars are all that matter.

CE/CW Jackie Waltman

Hello sisters and brothers.

It is my pleasure to serve as your CW/CE Business Representative and Coordinator, and also to serve as your Apprentice Business Representative. Being available to you seven days a week and making sure that you are successful in this program is my highest priority.

Also, remember that going to school is very important. You need 150 school hours and work hours per year. All CWs must keep your Trainee Cards updated. This is your responsibility, because without an updated Trainee Card, you will not be able to work. CW6s, make sure you are taking advantage of the online state certification practice test on the ETI website. If you have any questions, please get ahold of me. I'm here for you, and I always will be.

COMPLIANCE Veronica Martinez

In September, the IBEW 11 Compliance Department had the pleasure of hosting over 50 prevailing wage compliance auditors from the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and 50 labor compliance professionals from various cities and school districts. This gathering was the first time since 2019 where many compliance professionals from various agencies gathered to discuss high and low impact complaints and best practices. IBEW 11 provided attendees a tour of the ETI, and the Compliance Department conducted a presentation reviewing common violations in the electrical industry and providing often overlooked examples under the Inside Wireman, ITS and Sound agreements.

We enforced our message that "conduit is not pipe" and explained how the decisions made by these individuals when performing oversight and compliance efforts dramatically impact safety standards and the integrity of the electrical industry.

REFINERIES Manny Solis

Work in our refineries remains very strong coming into the fourth quarter. Many of our refineries are in the middle of turnarounds, which means that many of our members are working plenty of overtime!

Newtron Electric is looking to place many more calls in the coming month as the major portion of work at the World Energy Refinery is ready to break. To work at Newtron Electric, members will need the RSO 20 course, NFPA70E, and OSHA 30 certificates. The World Energy Refinery Project is a five- to six-year project that will involve the installation of all new equipment which will refine vegetable oil and soybean oil into clean jet fuel and biodiesel.

Most of our refineries will be changing their crude oil processing units into units that produce clean-burning fuels. The certifications needed for our refineries are RSO 20, TWIC, OSHA 30, NFPA70E, and Process Instrumentation.

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS Christopher Longoria

There has been a rising demand for electrical workers in the Transportation division. This has provided an opportunity to welcome nearly 50 new apprentices into our trade. Anticipating a promising job outlook, I foresee continual growth in this area. This growth will further bolster the ranks of ITS electricians in our profession. The next meeting for the Intelligent Transportation Systems unit (Unit 66) will be Tuesday, November 21, at 5 p.m. at the ETI.

I recently attended the IBEW Railroad and Government Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. It was impressive to witness the level of esteem that the IBEW holds for the railroad sector. I'm looking forward to sharing the information gathered at the upcoming unit meeting.

The next Railroad Communication & Signal Maintenance (Unit 17) meeting will be Thursday, December 14, at 5 p.m. at the ETI.

Please feel free to contact me directly at (626) 318-6333 or at *clongoria@ibew11.org*

MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL Kristian Mendoza

I hope this finds you and yours well.

Our new Local 11 print shop, Iron Rootz, has been working hard to produce new merchandise for the Local and for its different committees.

Kinkisharyo is moving along with its Metro refurbishing contract with the P2550 trains, and we are still working hard trying to find more contracts for the future.

Things are also moving along with Covanta. We are currently working with the company to get some safety issues resolved and will hopefully have the elevator up and running by the end of October.

Our affiliates at the Supervisor Association Metropolitan Water District are working on reopeners for their CBA and should be wrapping up in the coming months.

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve this great Local.

If you have any questions or concerns about manufacturing or industrial, please feel free to contact me.

(Continued on page 7)

DISTRICT 2 Carlos Rodarte

Greetings, my fellow brothers and sisters. We continue to visit non-union job sites, including Hawthorne Boulevard, Torrance and multiple restaurants where Streamline Electric is performing the electrical installation. Another project is a multi-unit complex on Carson Street and Torrance Boulevard for which Rye Electric is performing the electrical installation.

I attended Grow Long Beach at the Aquarium of the Pacific which featured an appearance by Mayor Rex Richardson. The mayor talked about a lot of work that will need to be completed in time for the 2028 Olympic games.

In reviewing the many projects being built all over Long Beach, \$4.2 billion worth are approved and moving ahead; \$507 million worth of those projects are under construction and \$408 million worth of work has been completed.

We continue to sign up new applicants into membership from all classifications.

DISTRICT 4 Ruben Mendoza

Greetings from District 4!

As a Local 11 organizer, I help change people's lives as they begin their journey with IBEW.

I attend City Council and Planning Commission hearings, voicing support and seeking elected officials' support for PLAs. These projects will create opportunities for local residents to join our union and create new career paths.

The Santa Clarita Planning Commission recently approved an 850,000-square-foot studio facility called Shadowbox Studios which will create 2,000 construction jobs. The City of LA Planning Commission approved the District NoHo Project in North Hollywood, which will include 311 affordable residential units.

District 4 has a lot of work coming up for our members. Remember to keep all your certificates current and be safe out there!

DISTRICT 6 Tommy Zielomski

Along with my usual tasks as an organizer, I was assigned recently to assist the Engineers and Architects Association in their current campaign to organize the L.A. City Council aides into EAA.

This involves daily Zoom meetings with the organizers to go over updates and frequent visits to city hall and their district offices to speak with the workers. We are trying to get as many authorizations for representation cards signed as possible.

The EAA affiliated with our union in 2013 and represents over 6,000 city employees. We feel they are the best union to represent the council aides. It would be a huge win if the LA City Council aides were members of EAA and Local 11.

As always, if you see any job sites or know of any electricians who want information about joining the IBEW, please contact me.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Benjamin Frank

Helping our newly signed contractors is a daily task. Whether it is a former member or a shop that is brand new to our collective bargaining agreement, everyone has questions and needs assistance. The work doesn't stop once they sign our

BUSINESS AGENT REPORTS CONT.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Crystal Herrera

Greetings, union siblings!

While I continue coordinating outreach, curating the museum, and attending to property management and Convention Agent duties, I want to acknowledge the toll that being alone during the holidays can take on our mental health. Local 11 proudly collaborates with Local 440 on the Break Bread Program, ensuring every member enjoys a hot meal in a welcoming environment on Thanksgiving. Take action and use the QR code to sign up as a host or guest.

Additionally, our RENEW, Solidarity, EWMC, Veterans Committees, and new clubs offer excellent opportunities to come together. On October 29th, the Chess Club will meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at South Bay Hall, and the Cigar Club will meet at 1:30 p.m. at Fat Stogies in Long Beach. Join us this month, and if you have ideas for new clubs or committees, don't hesitate to reach out. There's something for everyone! letter of assent. Whether we are helping these contractors navigate our systems, introducing them to new emerging markets, or helping them acquire manpower for their specific needs, this is a partnership that lasts until the end.

We have been talking to contractors that have signed subscription agreements to do specific jobs that require them to use our manpower and discussed their options to become full signatories. In addition, we are excited to be working on a presentation for potential contractors and clients designed to debunk myths about unions. The presentations will also cover the sign-up processes and contain helpful FAQs.

EVENTS AND LOGISTICS Jacob Troncoza

I hope that all is as well as it can be for everyone.

The winds of change have blown in, and I am currently overseeing Events and Logistics. I have also been taking night classes at Los Angeles Trade Tech College to learn and grow.

I have attended a lot of political events and council meetings to help our Local capture work, and I have also been assisting with convention center work and issues. In addition, I have been reaching out to members regarding delinquent dues, providing courtesy notifications and directing them to help.

Union-friendly political candidates have been reaching out to our Local, and we have provided grassroot support through canvassing and phone banking. There are many volunteering opportunities. Reach out to me if you are interested.

NABTU President McGarvey Visits Intuit Dome

orth American Building Trades Union President Sean McGarvey, who represents over 3 million constructions workers, visited Intuit Dome this month to highlight the MC3 pre-apprenticeship curriculum candidates that are working on the Clippers new stadium going up in Inglewood.



From left to right: Ron Watanabe, SASCO Superintendent, Darren Walton, MC3 Graduate and 2nd year IBEW 11 Inside Wireman Apprentice, NABTU President Sean McGarvey, California State Senator Steve Bradford who authored the bill to help create Intuit Dome, Ernesto Medrano, the new head of the LA/OC Building Trades Council, and Shomari Davis, IBEW 11 Business Representative in District 1 South.

Breaking Bread: Host an IBEW 11 Brother or Sister This Thanksgiving

o address the alarming suicide rates in the construction industry, IBEW 11 is teaming up with IBEW 440 on the 'Break Bread' program to ensure no member feels isolated this Thanksgiving.

While many of us are fortunate enough to have enough food on our tables and the warmth of our loving families, we know not every member shares this privilege. For those of you in a position to extend an invitation to a fellow member who would otherwise spend Thanksgiving alone, we kindly request you to utilize the QR code below to sign up for Break Bread program.

By doing so, you offer a sense of belonging and inclusion to those who may be feeling isolated.

And if you are a member without a place to go this Thanksgiving, we encourage you to also use the QR code below to connect with a member who has volunteered to host a union brother or sister for the holiday.

We firmly believe that no one should spend Thanksgiving alone. Through the Break Bread program, we hope to foster a supportive community where everyone feels valued and cared.



IBEW 11's Barton Appointed to Prestigious CSLB

n a nod to IBEW 11's growing influence in statewide politics, Business Manager Joël Barton was recently appointed to the prestigious and politically powerful 15-member California Contractors State License Board by the Senate Rules Committee as one of 10 public members.

Barton and his fellow board members will guide CSLB administrative policy



and operations and regulate 44 construction industry classifications. Barton's term runs through June 1, 2027.

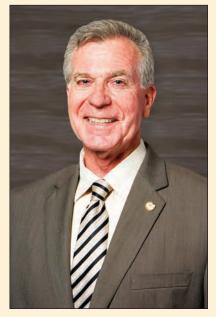
As part of the Department of Consumer Affairs Business & Professions Code §7002, the Board includes 10 public members (including one labor representative, one local building official, and one representative of a statewide senior citizen organization), and five contractors.

Appointments are made by the governor and state legislature. There are approximately 300,000 licensed contractors in California. CSLB also registers home improvement salespeople.

CSLB receives and processes applications for new licenses, additional classifications, changes of license records, and license renewals. Staff reviews and maintains records of disciplinary actions initiated by the regional offices and provides other support services.

This office also provides information about the status of a license as well as the verified certificates of licensure used in court or other actions and investigates consumer complaints against licensed and unlicensed contractors.

CSLB's Statewide Investigative Fraud Team focuses on the



underground economy and on unlicensed contractors. This unit conducts proactive stings and sweeps to help curtail illegal contracting by those who are not licensed.

CSLB was established in 1929 as the Contractors License Bureau under the Department of Professional and Vocational Standards.

Barton was also honored last month by Labor Community Services with an Inspirational Leadership Award for his work promoting Local 11 and enhancing membership skills and job opportunities during his term as Business Manager.