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THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

# NEWS@11



## Evermont Development is a Catalyst for Change in South Los Angeles

By Grant Slater

**A**t dawn, more than 15 IBEW electricians circle up, begin their morning stretches and set to work reshaping the heart of South Los Angeles.

These IBEW electricians are

working on the Evermont project, which is revitalizing a large lot that has stood vacant since the 1992 Los Angeles Civil Uprising.

The Evermont project at the corner of Vermont and Manchester is bringing affordable housing and economic opportunity to a neighborhood

that has long been neglected.

The complex will also play host to a training school for LA Metro and a charter school.

IBEW 11 Business Manager Robert Corona visited the site and talked to members about the importance of the union in obtaining project labor

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## Marleen Fonseca Has EAA and City of L.A. Marching into the Future Together

Relationship with IBEW 11 ensures united front

By Jeremy Kehoe

**F**rom LAX to the L.A. Zoo, more than 6,000 Engineers & Architects Association (EAA) brothers and sisters deliver critical services across 40 City of Los Angeles departments that directly impact the lives of millions of Angelenos every day.

Since 2021 Executive Director Marleen Fonseca has been at the

helm of EAA, organizing its diverse crew of dedicated public servants and orchestrating the scores of data-driven and on-the-ground solutions they deliver on issues from easing homelessness and increasing water safety to managing employee payrolls and improving public transportation.

Fonseca recently sat down with News@11 where she discussed the ongoing impact of EAA's growth

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# BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By Robert Corona



## More Support for Our Out of Work Members

providing more substantial support to our members when they need it most.

On another note, as Business Manager / Financial Secretary, it is my responsibility to guard the finances of the Local Union. With that in mind, with some recent reductions and task mergers, there will be a cost savings to the members of approximately \$1.2 million a year.

I want to invite you to take part in our upcoming Allocation Meeting and let your voice be heard about the distribution of funds for your benefit.

Your participation in Union activities is crucial. My duty as your representative is to ensure that every member, not just those who can attend meetings or participate actively, has their opinions heard and valued. This year, the vote will be only in person, and I hope you will attend.

Part of our work as a Union is to install sophisticated communication technology infrastructure, and I believe it is only fitting that we leverage such technology to make our union more inclusive and accessible.

That's why I support using all the tools available to that end, including electronic voting in future allocation decisions. This method has proven to be a success, significantly increasing participation. You can also look for an app for your smart phone that will allow us to better communicate

with the membership. We will be doing a soft rollout soon with the full implementation in the near future. It's essential that we continue to advocate for and utilize these tools to ensure everyone's voice is heard.

Another example is an innovative update to our job call system. Based on feedback from many of you, we are looking to add hyperlinks directly to the zip codes associated with each job listing. This new feature allows members to quickly and efficiently view the zip codes that are required in order to take the job, from the comfort of their homes.

This enhancement not only simplifies the process of finding work but also exemplifies our commitment to using technology to better serve our members. It's a small change that makes a big difference in how we connect with and support each other every day.

On a personal note, the past four months, since I took over as Business Manager, have been a profound journey of growth and learning for me. Visiting job sites and engaging directly with many of you has been invaluable. Your feedback has led to tangible improvements. This is just one example of how your insights are shaping our union for the better.

As a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, we operated under three core values:

Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence In All We Do. I have always tried to implement these values throughout my 33 years as an IBEW member. Service Before Self is a principle that has deeply resonated with me in this role. I feel a profound responsibility to enhance our support and broaden our impact. This commitment extends beyond our local community as I engage with the state building trades and the LA Fed to advocate for the broader interests of working people.

My journey through various roles within our union—from organizer to Senior Assistant Business Manager—has equipped me with the tools and perspective needed to face the challenges ahead.

Looking forward, I am enthusiastic about the opportunities to grow our membership and strengthen our agreements with contractors. This will not only improve our work picture but also allow us to reintroduce benefits that were previously discontinued.

Thank you for your trust and cooperation. Together, we will build a brighter, more secure future for all our members.

*In Solidarity,*  
Robert Corona  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

**D**ear IBEW 11 Members,  
As your Business Manager, I am committed to keeping you informed and involved in the continuous development and betterment of our union.

This month, we made significant progress in enhancing the financial support available to our members during times of unemployment.

After thoughtful discussions with NECA, we are pleased to announce an increase in our sub-plan benefits.

Beginning May 1, 2024, Journeymen who were previously receiving \$100 will now benefit from an additional \$100, bringing their total to \$200 weekly. Apprentices who were previously receiving \$50 will also benefit from an additional \$100 bringing their total to \$150 and Apprentices attending mandatory weekly day classes will also see an increase from \$200 to \$300 per week. This adjustment ensures that our sub-plan remains sustainable while

# IBEW 11's NEWS@11

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# You Have Great Health Benefits. Use Them.

**B**rothers and Sisters, Just like keeping up the maintenance on your car or truck is important to making sure it runs well and is there when you need it, so too it is equally important for you to get regular check ups to maintain your own health.

Many of us don't think twice about getting annual inspections for our vehicles. We check to see that the tires are properly inflated, not overly worn or too thin. That the brakes are good. True, not all of us do this. Some of us wait until something breaks down. And then we pay a steep price to get it fixed.

The same thing applies to your health. Getting regular check ups can avert problems later.

IBEW 11 has worked very hard to provide you with excellent health benefits. You should use them. The insurance providers have factored in the cost of annual check ups. They would rather pay (and happily, I might add) for an annual physical and address any issues that you might be having right then and there instead of waiting until you feel poorly or are hobbling around.

As we get older, our bodies start to wear down and trying to keep everything in working order gets more and more challenging. Think about this: if your family has a history of heart problems, getting

an annual check up can prevent or reduce the chance of you having a major heart attack. Even if your doctor determines surgery to clear out a blockage is necessary, then your operation is scheduled and you're on your way to better health.

On the other hand, if you ignore this same situation and have a major heart attack, the cost and worry for an emergency surgery can be astronomical and it takes longer to heal. So please, use your benefits. Take care of yourself. Take care of your family. Hopefully doing so will reap long term happiness and satisfaction.

As always if you have any questions, call the health trust. If you have other questions, don't hesitate



to call our offices or reach out to any one of our agents. Thank you.

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

## Raise Secured for Hyperion Crew

### Bump in pay ensures more competitive salary

By Robert Fulton

**A** raise secured for the IBEW 11 members working at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant will help with attracting and retaining talent at the facility.

The Hyperion crew will receive a \$5 an hour raise. This bump in pay is specific to electricians working for the L.A. Sanitation Department and is retroactive to January 1. This is in addition to the 22% raise over five years that IBEW 11 members will receive as a result of recent contract negotiations with the city of Los Angeles.

"It's a huge, huge win for us," said Luis Arida, IBEW 11's Civil Service Business Rep. "It sets the precedent for other departments as well. A rising tide is going to lift all boats."

The work at the Hyperion plant is specialized and the facility

has faced challenges in retaining electricians. Often, after two years of training and finally learning the ropes, many workers will leave for the Department of Water and Power and better pay. Once with DWP, those former Local 11 members would then be represented by Local 18.

Simply put, the plant was losing workers and Local 11 was losing members.

"For many years, there's been a steady bleed of our members that are jumping ship," said Arida, who likened Hyperion to a training ground for the DWP.

Arida stressed that the new rate along with high voltage bonuses makes the Hyperion wage very competitive.

The Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant sits along the Pacific Ocean near Dockweiler State Beach. It is one of the largest sewage treatment facilities in the world.

Electrical workers at Hyperion



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

perform anything from maintenance to construction, sometimes working with up to 34,500 volts. The plant is open 24 hours a day, with swing and graveyard shifts. Losing power is not an option

Staffing has been an issue. Currently, there are about 30 electricians on site, but up to 50 may be needed for preventative and emergency maintenance.

Richard Gray is an IBEW 11 Shop Steward at Hyperion. He's worked at the plant for five years and is a 20-year member of the Local. He says trouble shooting is a key skill

at the plant, and losing skilled electricians is hard.

"It's really tough because you finally have a person you can depend on that you feel comfortable with the plant, is knowledgeable, where you could tell them where they need to go what they need to do," Gray said.

Gray sees the raise as a way to retain that talent.

"It's important that we continue to keep up so that we can keep the quality people," Gray said. "A lot of times the quality people are looking for more."

# #IBEW11Strong

## EVERMONT SITE VISIT

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agreements on projects like Vermont that are closely tied to Los Angeles city planning goals.

“How do we get these PLAs? Because we tell them, we’re going to put your constituents to work. We’re going to put your people to work,” Corona said.

Scott Gagnon, site foreman for Baker Electric, said the project is 70 percent complete and expected to finish in the next eight months. Once completed, Vermont will offer 180 affordable housing units.

Gagnon, who joined the electricians’ union a decade ago after 36 years in the field, said he had resisted becoming an IBEW member.

“In the beginning, I didn’t think it was the right thing to do to come into the Union, because I didn’t think I want to pay somebody to work,”

Gagnon said. “But being in the union, being in the unit, I found that there’s Brotherhood. There’s someone that’s actually thinking about me and watching out for my well-being.”

At its height, the Vermont development employed 65 electricians who have been working on a complex that includes retail spaces, including a Target on the ground floor and a central plaza, designed to boost local commerce and community engagement.

Savannah Branch, a new electrician who spent two years as a CE/CW apprentice, shared her personal journey into the trade and the impact of working on a project within her own community.

“This is the community that I’m from and being able to come and put something into my community and say, “Wow, this is my community. I built that,’ it feels amazing,” Branch said.

Branch came into the union through the Second Call program



organized by John Harriel, and she has quickly become involved in many of the clubs and fellowship offerings of IBEW 11.

Rob Peraza, a project executive for Baker Electric, worked as an electrician for decades before transitioning from hands-on electrical work to management

Peraza’s father was an electrician and he loved putting on his belt and getting into the wires, stressing the value of union-led training and development.

“There’s like a social aspect to the Union that really kind of weeds out [those with] low character,” Peraza observed, suggesting a link between union training and the quality of workmanship.

The Vermont project, with its affordable housing units, is a step toward addressing Los Angeles’ housing crisis.

Peraza pointed out the reasonable quality of these units within the context of the city’s broader housing market.

## MARLEEN FONSECA

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through its recent partnership with IBEW 11, outlined EAA’s top-priority initiatives for 2024, shared her optimism for EAA’s future, and detailed plans to add even greater value-add services to union members.

**Before we look ahead, let’s look back. EAA membership has grown by almost 1,000 since you became Executive Director in 2021. What were some of the most important contributors to that growth?**

One of the keys to EAA’s growth has been our constant commitment to embracing technology and integrating it into every facet of our operation. We’re always working to update our technology capabilities to better communicate with members, build a more informative and user-friendly website, and make the overall membership experience better by making sure we’re offering the services that will benefit our members most.

One example was that we developed a member-development program to train employees – as many as 300 at a time online – to help them pass specific promotional exams offered by the City. Another example is that we were able to enhance our

members’ benefit package, so every dues-paying member now has union-sponsored life insurance, along with free legal services. None of this was in place before.

**How has EAA’s affiliation with IBEW 11 grown during this same time?**

I’ve seen this relationship grow and develop since EAA affiliated with IBEW 11 in 2013. It’s a true partnership. We go to them for resources we might need, and vice versa. There’s a lot of collaboration. Sometimes, I can help an IBEW 11 business agent get together to start building a relationship with a City Department manager, for example. And, IBEW, in turn, helps EAA by providing us access to resources like training staff, and building our organizing abilities to help us organize the unrepresented city employees.

**EAA members serve in more than 40 City of Los Angeles agencies. Just how integral a role do EAA members play in the day-to-day functioning of City programs and services?**

EAA members in the City serve as entry-level, mid-level, and high-level management. They are really the nuts and bolts of the City. If the City Council needs an analysis and a report, it’s going to be EAA members performing that analysis, doing that research, and most likely presenting that report back to the Council.

The entire IT structure of the City is reliant on EAA members because EAA represents every class of IT employees.

In every Department, anything that has to do with an employee or vendor getting paid appropriately and on time, there is an EAA member behind that. A lot of what the City relies on to function and thrive every day relies on the work of EAA members. We, as a union, really know the City from the inside out – from the policies to the onboarding to the charter, to finding the right provision in the administration code. All EAA representatives are well-versed and have extensive City and labor experience.

**How has the relationship between the City of Los Angeles and EAA evolved over the last few years?**

EAA members are a professional group of employees, and the City recognizes that, and they also recognize that the union works in a professional manner to make it a better experience for employees and the City. We really collaborate with the City on a whole range of programs. As EAA members we’re always working to make sure the City understands our value, and the more that we continue to come together, the more our union continues to grow. The City recognizes EAA’s value.

**Are you optimistic about the future of EAA and its relationship with the City and its partnership with IBEW?**

I am. Everything feels like it’s

headed on the right track. We have a great relationship with almost every general manager in the City and the leadership in the City. I know I can call them, and they know they can call me. I see this relationship going nowhere but in a positive direction. Our allies on the City Council continue to grow, and we’re continuing to expand our membership. Things are headed in the right direction. I’m smiling right now.

**Finally, is there anything you want people to know about EAA that might surprise them?**

One of the challenges at EAA is that our membership is so spread out in so many different parts of the City that they don’t always get a chance to interact with each other. Union members want to socialize, so we’re now participating in Union Night at Dodgers Stadium, which we hadn’t done before, but we’re regulars now. We give tickets to members (and their guests) and provide the members with a custom EAA baseball jersey. It’s become a hit!

We also now have wellness events like our 5K runs and walks, because just getting out is so important for our members’ mental wellbeing. EAA members all perform such different tasks, and they’re all such essential employees in the City. So, bringing them together is important.



# Members Speak Out

*“One thing I will say about the Union, it has changed my life, it saved my life and without it, I don’t know where I would be at today.”*



**—SAVONNAH BRANCH**  
Inside Journeyman Wireman Apprentice

*“I’m trying to get my grandsons to join because, either you go to college and pay hundreds of thousands of dollars, or you can go into a trade and we’ll train you for free.”*



**—SCOTT GAGNON**  
Baker Electric Site Foreman

*“I like our pay and our benefits; they’re amazing. And the work itself, I really like getting into a project and really taking hold of it and seeing the fruits of my labor.”*



**—ILANA FEINGOLD**  
Inside Journeyman Wireman

**DISTRICT 2  
Gary Tomlin**

Some upcoming projects in the D2 area are as follows:

AES in Long Beach is installing another 50 MW BESS with Sergeant Elect and Morrow Meadows (underground phase). This project should look to be picking up sometime in April or May.

Rosendin/Meadows joint venture project at Harbor UCLA should start to pick up in the upcoming months. Currently they are finishing up the parking structure. One tower of the new hospital is just finishing up the steel and decks with a second larger tower to follow.

LEED Electric is working on the Transit Shed project in the Port of Long Beach. They have called out of the hall recently for workers.

CSI at Harbor College is starting a new 3-story Nursing Building, steel and decks just installed.

ILB is at Cal State Dominques Hills installing a completely new substation to power the campus, as well as installing a new medium voltage infrastructure.

**DISTRICT 4  
Marc Greenfield**

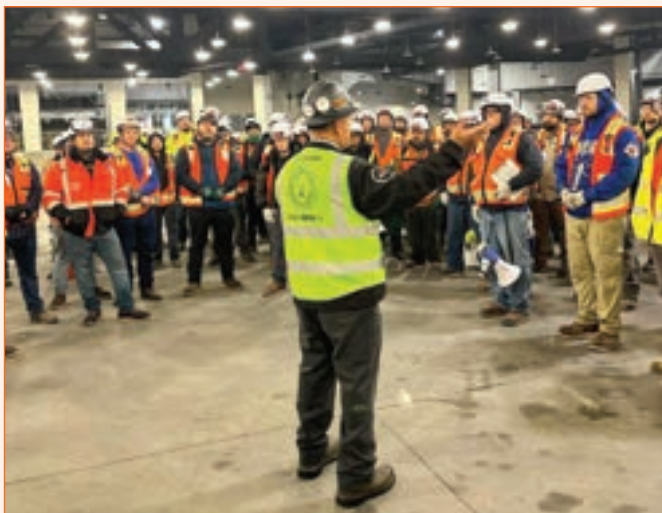
Greetings from the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. I hope everyone is dry and happy. Hopefully we are done with the rain, allowing washed out projects to start back up.

Currently LAUSD and LACCD projects are keeping many of our members working. There are several new buildings starting construction at Valley College and Pierce College.

There is a very large project out to bid at the Tillman Water treatment plant. Mass Electric is out there doing some preliminary work.

Burbank Airport will be building a new terminal with 14 gates and a new parking structure. This is the largest project in over 20 years and should start hiring in June. CSI and Rosendin are the main contractors on site.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the officers of District 4 and volunteers for their hard work and dedication to making the District 4 meetings go smoothly and feeding our members great food.



*Business Manager Robert Corona speaking with members who are building the Intuit Dome, new home to the L. A. Clippers*

**DISTRICT 6  
Tommy Zielomski**

Brothers and Sisters, greetings from District 6. I continue visiting as many job sites as possible in District 6 and speaking to the members on those sites. Along with asking members if there's any issues on the job, I'm working diligently on enforcing portability as well as job site ratio. I'm making sure members of other locals have cleared into Local 11 and the contractor is following the rules in regard to portability.

I'm taking tallies on how many apprentices and Journeyman are on site. Section 5.12. of the Inside Wiremen's Agreement says, "Each job site shall be allowed a ratio of two (2) apprentices for every three (3) Journeyman wiremen or a fraction thereof." If you're on a job site and there are more apprentices than journeyman, chances are the contractor is out of compliance with the ratio.

I cannot be at every job all the time so I'm asking for help from my Brothers and Sisters in the field. If you're on a project and you think something isn't right, please reach out to a Business Agent.

As always, it's an honor to serve the members.

**COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT  
Veronica Martinez**

One of my duties on behalf of IBEW 11, and the union industry at large, is to serve as Chair of the LACCD Citizens Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC). The CBOC provides citizen-based oversight of the various voter-approved bond measures for LACCD, which totals over \$15 billion dollars' worth of work mostly completed under a PLA.

In my role as Chair, I receive quarterly updates regarding the progress and project planning. Here is an update for you.

To date, LACCD has contracted \$7.3 billion dollars of work; with \$7.6 billion to be contracted. Currently there are 209 projects in the design phase with a large majority of future work committed to district-wide energy efficiency and existing building upgrades.

During the period of July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, the electrical craft lead against all craft hours on LACCD work performed during that period. In short, there is still a lot more work to come.

**CW  
Jackie Waltman**

Hello Sisters and Brothers. All CE's and CW's who are currently working on receiving your General Certification, please contact me once you've passed your exam.

For CE's that currently have a General Certification, please contact me for information regarding the Local 11

Journeyman's exam.

The state of California mandates that CW's (Electrician Trainees) attend classes to complete the CW (Electrician Trainee) curriculum. Those who do not attend school at the Electrical Training Institute, must attend school for this education at a state approved school. Please visit the website below for a list of state approved schools. <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/ecu/listofapprovedschools.html>

I'm currently putting a list together for the Code Prep class. Please email me if you're interested in attending.

As always, please do not hesitate to email me if you have any concerns or need assistance. It's an honor and a privilege to represent you.

**MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL  
Kristian Mendoza**

Hello, hope all is well with you and your families and you are staying safe. It has been a busy couple months on the Manufacturing and Industrial side of things:

Kinkisharyo is moving with the P2550 contract, and we are looking at an August date for the Olympic P3010 bid process to start.

Covanta things are winding down and the first wave of separations started March 31st and the decommissioning process has started and will last from 12 to 18 months.

The Supervisor Association Metropolitan Water District "SAMWD" are continuing to work hard to finish up the last few items in their CBA.

On the EAA front, we are still pushing forward on the organizing campaign to get the LA City Council Aides the representation they deserve, and much progress has been made over the last couple months.

Any questions or concerns about Manufacturing or Industrial please feel free to contact me.

**REFINERIES  
Manny Solis**

Refinery work will be ramping up in the coming months. Almost all of our refineries are converting over to the production of clean jet fuel and biodiesel produced via vegetable and corn oil vs. dirty crude oil. This new process for production is requiring almost every refinery to convert their processes to a new and improved method of refining.

Each of our refinery contractors will be requesting journeyperson's, Level "B" instrumentation technician's and some high voltage cable splicers to perform the upcoming work. The RSO 20 course and certification, and the TWIC Card are a requirement for most all refineries. I am asking that members look into acquiring these requirements to work in the refineries and to take the instrumentation technician course at our E.T.I. ASAP.

**DISTRICT 2**  
**Errol Cutley**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters from the South Bay.

Our community continues to grow and even with the raised interest rates, construction is still moving forward. There are plenty of projects taking place in Los Angeles County, so as organizers we are working hard to visit these nonunion sites in efforts to increase our membership as well as increase our union density, ultimately by increasing the number of signatory contractors.

We have visited numerous construction projects, from luxury residential and retail storefronts to huge tilt-up warehouse-style buildings, stripping unrepresented electricians from nonunion contractors.

I want to personally thank our members here in Local 11 for giving us the heads-up on projects that they come across in their daily journey. We are 1 family, and 1 body, moving forward with the speed and strength of a bullet train.

LET'S GO LOCAL 11, CHOO-CHOO!!!

**DISTRICT 4**  
**Ruben Mendoza**

Greeting from District 4,

March 2024 was Women's History Month. We celebrated the contributions and achievements women of all backgrounds have made throughout the history of the United States

and especially in the IBEW. The Local is making great strides bringing women into membership!

We also remembered and celebrated labor warrior Cesar Chavez on what would have been his 97th birthday on March 31st.

I also had the very distinct honor to attend IBEW's Veterans Electrical Entry Program (VEEP) graduation. Our very own Eric Brown, a military vet and current VP of IBEW Local 11, served as the keynote speaker. VEEP had a total of 21 graduates, nine of whom will enter apprenticeship programs throughout various locals and the remaining 12 with Local 11.

I continue to visit non-union jobsites throughout the District 4 area with a heavy focus on speaking to contractors about joining the IBEW, which intern would mean more work for our members.

**DISTRICT 6**  
**Tommy Zielomsk**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters from District 6. As an organizer, my job is to organize the work, the workers, and the contractors who do the projects. One way we organize the work is by being politically active trying to get Project Labor Agreements in place before the job starts. I attend school board meetings, city council meetings, Board of Supervisors meetings and other events, to network and speak to the people that have a vote that can potentially secure work for our members.

I visit job sites and host career fairs to spread the word of the IBEW and organize

new members into Local 11. We also talk to contactors on jobsites we visit and try to organize their companies into the local. By securing work through PLA's, it also attracts many contractors to join because they will have to follow the rules of our agreement and use our workforce as well. The higher our union density and the higher our market share is, the more power we have as a union when it comes to contract negotiations. This is why we must always continue to organize.

**LA CONTRACTOR ORGANIZER**  
**Ben Frank**

We persist in advocating for opportunities for our members at both federal and state levels, which ultimately impacts our community in Los Angeles County. It was a privilege to advocate in Sacramento for legislation crucial to the future of IBEW Local 11, shaping not only the present but also the next several decades.

As we work on organizing contractors within our jurisdiction, it's essential to recognize the significant role that legislation plays in ensuring our labor is utilized on these contractors' projects and secures that our agreement with them lasts.

Encouragingly, we've seen a high level of interest in our upcoming contractors' class scheduled for May 6th though 10th, so please ensure your checks and information sheets are submitted to our organizing department in Pasadena. We have put a lot of effort into making this class a pivotal role in your journey to becoming a signatory contractor.

**ON SAFETY**

**Lock out/Tag out, LOTO**

By Mike Costigan

I was visiting a job a couple weeks ago and noticed a LOTO lock box on the lunch table. I walked over to the box and saw 4 locks on it with accompanying tags.

Each tag had the name of the individual to whom that lock had been assigned to. The foreman told me his key to the lock that was locking out the circuits that fed the equipment the crew were working on was in the box. They also had a logbook with dates, times, and names.

I asked if all people affected walked the task down and were present when they tested to confirm it was de-energized. They had. Textbook LOTO procedures.

I looked around at the brothers and sisters that were at the table eating lunch. I asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding how they were implementing the LOTO. Everyone had a comfort level that allowed them to focus on their task at hand instead of worrying if the equipment they were working on would become energized.

OSHA 30 covers a wide variety of subjects regarding safety in the construction industry, but that does not relieve the contractor from implementing a stringent training program, including their LOTO protocols.

Other ways to increase safeguards besides a lock are to physically remove the conductors from the breaker or pull fuses, just to name a few.

Other conditions to consider: Are there other types of stored energy besides electrical? Some equipment may have stored energy in the form of springs, hydraulic fluids, and steam. Make sure you fully comprehend what the circuits you're working on control, and how the equipment operates.

If you have any questions regarding your safety, start with your supervisor. They should be able to answer all your questions. If you should have further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I will do my due diligence to provide you with an answer.

Which brings me to another subject. We now have an email address that's dedicated solely to safety. [safety@ibew11.org](mailto:safety@ibew11.org). If you have



any questions, comments, or concerns, please email them to me. These emails go directly to my work PC, and nowhere else. Especially if you are aware of a time loss incident.

As a friendly reminder, we hold our Safety Committee meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m. at the South Bay Hall. Your safety committee is looking to increase our membership with people who have a serious passion for safety and want to perpetuate its culture. If this sounds like you or someone you know, please contact me at [safety@ibew11.org](mailto:safety@ibew11.org) or 310-503-5337.

# IBEW 11 Members Help Keep the Ports Safe and Humming

Each year, billions of dollars' worth of cargo from around the world comes through the Port of Los Angeles on a 24/7 basis. Another 1.3 million passengers arrive via cruise ships every year. The nation's premier gateway for international commerce, the LA port is the busiest seaport in the Western Hemisphere. Who services, repairs and maintains the ship to shore power for those huge cargo and cruise ships? All that work is done by a small, highly skilled IBEW 11 public sector crew who work at the port.

Of the 1,000 or so IBEW 11 public sector workers in L.A. City and County, some 30 work directly at the port, run by the City of LA.

Recently, IBEW 11 Business Manager Robert Corona and Business Rep Luis Arida visited the port to talk to the crew and learn about the critical work they do in facilitating the huge volume of cargo and passengers that are key to the local economy. "We're always happy to show off what a huge impact our IBEW 11 workers have on keeping the goods flowing at the Port of LA," said Shop Steward and Senior Electrician Jason Peterson.

Port electrical workers fall into two classifications: Electricians and Port Electrical Mechanics or PEMs. These two versatile classifications perform all the skilled electrical and mechanical work at the port, including welding and rigging maintenance and repair work on de-energized and energized high voltage electrical conductors and associated switchgear. They also maintain all the electrical substations, including wharf-side high voltage electrical power connections for container cranes, lighting and power infrastructure for terminal operations, drawbridges, sewer lift

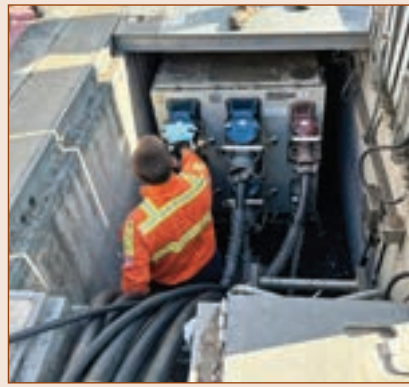
stations, local park areas, multiple local marinas for public shore power connections, electric vehicle charging stations, and Port of LA administration and Police facilities.

"It's a 24/7 operation here at the port," noted Peterson. Depending on the schedule of ship coming through, crew have to be on standby to work evenings and weekends.

The cargo ships unload across the channel, with a permanent electrical set up and cranes to offload the containers. Meanwhile, the 200-plus cruise ships that come through the port each year dock on the other side of the channel, plugging into the huge Mobile AMPs - Alternative Mobile Power - IBEW 11 members set up, inspect, clean, test and maintain as the cruise ships come in.

With the huge Vincent Thomas Bridge spanning the port in the background, safety is always top of mind, particularly following the recent Baltimore bridge collapse when it was rammed by a cargo ship, killing several workers. The day following the Key Bridge disaster, Peterson said the LA Port crew was put on alert, and he was called into emergency meetings with all the Port agencies about how they might be affected and to review their emergency procedures.

When disaster strikes, it's good to know the skilled IBEW 11 members are there keeping Angelenos safe.



IBEW Local 11 member and instructor Luis Corona received his 25 year pin from his brother Business Manager Robert Corona at the District 3 meeting. Also present were both of their sons and nephews, all IBEW Local 11 members. "These past 25 years have been the best years of my life and I look forward to the next 25!" said Luis upon receiving his certificate.



On March 15, 2024, IBEW 11 marked the graduation of its fifth VEEP Cohort, consisting of 21 individuals.