



# DISTRICT COUNCIL 4 Update

December 2024

Painters, Tapers, Glaziers, Glassworkers, Billboard Posters, Wallcoverers, Printing Presswork and Pre-natal-Perinatal Workers

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Union Brothers and Sisters,

I want to provide everyone with some background on NYS Prevailing Wage Laws. The following excerpt is from the Cornell School of Industrial & Labor Relations (ILR) from 2018. This is Part One: The Rationale for Prevailing Wage Laws. To be followed by Part 2: Costs & Benefits of Prevailing Wage Laws. Knowledge is power and education is the premise of progress.

“The rationale for all prevailing wage laws, since the first federal law was enacted after the Civil War, is essentially this: when government contracts for construction services, infusing significant public dollars into a local labor market, its considerable purchasing power should not adversely impact a community’s wage standards. Public officials must of course be mindful of costs and “protect the public fisc,” but the responsibility to taxpayers also requires that they account for “externalities” and consider the public interest in the economic and social impact of their decisions. This is distinguished from corporate decision-making, which is instead driven by executives’ fiduciary duty to maximize profits. The public interest standard is reflected

elsewhere: in the policies and procedures underlying competitive bidding statutes, responsible contracting, and for determining the appropriateness of public-sector Project Labor Agreements in New York State. Prevailing wage laws have a long history of bipartisan political support. New York State enacted its prevailing wage law in 1894. Seven states adopted laws between 1891 and 1923. Eighteen more states followed during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The federal prevailing wage law, commonly known as Davis-Bacon, for its two Republican co-sponsors, was enacted in 1931 and signed into law by Republican President Herbert Hoover. New York Republican Congressman Robert L. Bacon introduced the original federal prevailing wage bill in 1927. Congressman Bacon provided a rationale that is no less relevant for today’s industry than it was eighty years ago and is worth noting here:

“The Government is engaged in building in my district a Veteran’s Bureau hospital. Bids were asked for. Several New York contractors bid, and in their bids, of course, they had to take into consideration the high labor standards prevailing in the State of New York... The bid, however, was let to a firm from Alabama who had brought some thousand non-union laborers from Alabama into Long Island, N.Y.: into my district. They were herded onto this job, they were housed in shacks, they were paid a very low wage, and the work proceeded... It seemed to me that the federal Government should not engage in construction work in any state and undermine the labor conditions and the labor wages paid in that State... The least the federal Government can do is comply with the local standards of wages and labor prevailing in the locality where the building construction is to take place.”

Another demonstration of New York’s policy leadership in the nation is that delegates to New York’s 1938 Constitution Convention incorporated the prevailing wage requirement into the state’s Constitution. New York can again provide leadership by expanding the scope of its prevailing wage law to include economic development projects funded, at least in part, by public assets.”

If we learn from our history, we can expand on our successes and not repeat our failures.

In solidarity,

Michael Hogan  
Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
IUPAT District Council 4



IUPAT DC 4 of WNY & CNY



## MARC BRAUNSTEIN

### *Director of Training*

As 2024 comes to an end, and we are heading into 2025, the Finishing Trades Institute of Western and Central New York (FTI of W&CNY) is emersed in our busiest time of the year. We have been preparing for the busy Health & Safety and Upgrading Training season and we have our Apprenticeship Schooling starting in December. The busy training and Apprentice school season runs through April every year. We are excited to jump into the new season and new year! We hope to see as many members at our training classes as possible.

I would like to welcome a few new Instructors to the FTI of W&CNY team. In WNY, Billy Dickson will be our new Drywall Taper Instructor, Anthony Lands will be our new Bridge Painter Apprentice Instructor, and Jaimee Bechard (worked with us a little bit last year), will be one of our Commercial Painter Instructor. At our Cortland Training Center (CTC), Paul Leone will be Instructing the Glazier Apprentices and Michael Emmett will be one of the Commercial Painter/Taper Instructors. All of our new Instructors have been working hard to get up to speed with this new world as an Instructor and they have been receiving training to better teach our members. A huge THANK YOU goes out to

FTI Staff - Hillary Sansone, Kathy Velie, Bob Brueckman, and Josh Osterhout for working together and with our new Instructors to make sure we are all prepared for the busy season. I would also like to thank our veteran instructors- Dave Peterson, Seth Spangler, Mike Sylvia, and David Weitzel for working with our new Instructors and showing them the way the FTI works. I appreciate all of you!

The FTI of W&CNY has been hovering around two hundred Apprentices for a while now. This is a respectable number, but we should be pushing to get more Apprentices on our jobs. This is an easy way to grow our membership. We still have a high turnover for new Apprentices. If we could start with trying to keep ¼ of those who fizzle out, we will be in a much better position. Keep working with our Apprentices, mentoring them, and showing them how to be the best mechanic and the best Union member that they can be.

I would like to Congratulate our DC 4 members who have graduated their Apprenticeship programs over the last couple of years. The FTI of W&CNY wants to recognize their well-deserved accomplishments of completing an apprenticeship Program. Please see the Apprentice Graduation page.

Please check out the Training Schedule at DC4.org and make sure you sign up for the classes that are needed to keep you safe and to get you on some of the jobsites. Please call the FTI of W&CNY Office at 716-565-0112 with any Training needs or questions.

I hope all of my DC 4 Brothers and Sisters have a great Holiday season, spent with Family and Friends! I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and wish you a very healthy, prosperous, and Happy New Year! I hope to see as many of you in training classes over the next few months. Stay safe out there!!



## BRIAN LIPCZYNSKI

### *Director of Service Representative*

I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year! I hope everyone got to spend time with love ones and enjoy the most "relaxing" time of the year. As we look forward to the upcoming year, I can only hope that District Council 4 will grow and be more UNITED than ever before. I am optimistic that 2025 will be a great for work and man hours, with our members getting started on mega projects throughout our jurisdiction.

We have a few changes to our staff. Dominic Zirilli is retiring and Wesley Schlossin will be taking over as a District Council 4 Business Representative. He will be tasked with Locals 43 and 112. Wes has been on staff for quite some time and has a lot of knowledge. Being new on staff five years ago, I leaned on Wes for support and guidance. Wes in this new, albeit challenging role, will thrive and attempt to bring a new mindset and direction to Local 43 and 112. I would like to thank Dominic on his years of service, and dedication to District Council 4. I would also like to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

As we are talking about changes to the Western New York region Business Representative role, we are going to have a change in the Central New York region as well. Dan LaFrance will be retiring soon and that will leave a vacancy for Locals 31 and 38. We are accepting resumes! Please send them to MHogan@dc4.org or JSalansky@dc4.org.

The Glazier master bargaining agreement is up, and we have begun negotiations. We must stick together to get what we deserve. Painters, Drywall Finishers, and Glaziers alike. We all have the same goal of a decent wage, good benefits, safe working conditions, and getting everything that we deserve as the backbone of the economy. We are all one family and have one fight. Let's do it together.

Let us hope that 2025 is a more prosperous year with Health and Wealth for all! Look forward to talking to and seeing everyone soon. Until then I am always just a phone call away.

As always reach out to me (716-429-7489) with any questions or concerns. Treat everyone as an equal and be kind. Life is too short for hostility in the workplace. Work safely and get home to your families and loved ones healthy!



## FRANK STENTO

*Director of Business Development*

Brothers and Sisters of District Council #4,

DC4 Organizers have been boots on the ground this quarter scheduling and executing job blitzes. All DC4 staff have participated on these predominantly private projects. We now have exceeded the number of unique projects hit in our 33 County jurisdiction of Western and Central NY, compared to 2023, by over 100 with more on the schedule before 2024 closes. In our travels we focus on bottom-up worker conversations and promoting the benefits for those looking to make the IUPAT crafts a long-term career. We promote DC4 signatory contractors and workforce to the GC's and Developers we encounter. We identify and document to provide analytics of our marketshare and we look to organize private contractors looking for opportunities of growth. A huge thank you to those in the field that take the time to call our DC4 Representatives on projects where the nonunion workforce may be working alongside. Those actions brothers and sisters is us working towards a common goal of growing our ranks, and having the most productive, skilled and safe workforce in the Finishing Trades.

As mentioned in the last journal article we continue our rapid pace of career fairs to promote awareness of these upper middle-class opportunities in the trades. A couple of years prior we had immense struggles getting applicants for apprenticeship but now the challenge is keeping up with the interest. Our apprenticeship is our future and the quality of the applicants coming in has also been a welcomed development. I have witnessed on jobsites many accounts of mentorship from our journey workers assisting our apprentices. For those of you who take the extra effort you are setting those members up for success that can be life changing while at the same time strengthening future contributions to your pension.

I would like to touch on some successes recently that organizers Joe Guza and Guy Falsetti have had in compliance efforts. Through reviewing certified payrolls on public projects and filing complaints with the NYS DOL there were multiple private contractors that owed back wages. This not only makes those workers whole, but levels the playing field in bidding future projects. This is just one way that policing our jurisdiction assists our industry and as we continue to build out best practices and strategies there will be more wins for workers in our region.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge Wes Schlossin who has been a long time DC4 Organizer that will be transitioning into the role of Business Representative early 2025. Wes is someone that always takes the time to have meaningful and heartfelt conversations with our membership and industry professionals. He has been influential in many campaigns over the years on staff and is well known throughout the IUPAT as a leader. I believe his attributes will make him a strong addition to the Servicing Department in assisting our membership and helping retention. Looking forward to what this next chapter brings. We thank Wes for his years of service in organizing and remember no matter the title we are all organizers.

Thank you DC4 membership for the dedication you bring to your craft every day. Your skills and commitment to excellence are the foundation upon which we will grow and thrive in OUR Union. The long hours, physical effort and pride you take in your work create a better future for us all. Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to each and every Industrial & Commercial Painter, Taper, Glazier, Fabricator, Shopworker, Service Delivery, Print Press, Prenatal, Municipal, Safety & Health, Apparel worker in our DC4 family. May you and yours experience the best this season has to offer.

In Solidarity,

Frank A. Stento

607-727-5208



## DAN LAFRANCE

*Director of Political Action*

I hope you all had a safe Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year and were able to celebrate the holiday season with family & friends. I also want to thank all members that were able to assist any of the candidates endorsed by our Locals, District Council and Delegates by phone banking, doing lit drops, canvassing or in any other way. We were successful in re-electing many candidates that have continued to support us in our efforts on legislation for apprenticeship language, local hire language, PLA's and in every other way we have asked.

It was great to see that Tim Kennedy was re-elected to represent CD 26 in Buffalo Region as he was very instrumental in helping us get our CAS Legislation in place when he was our NYS Senator (District 63) and we believe he will do well for us in Congress and look forward to see what he can do.

We also had NYS Senator John Mannion (District 50) decide to run against Congressman Brandon Williams in Congressional District 22 in the Syracuse Region. We had tried to work with Brandon Williams and build our relationship but when we were asked by the International to reach out to see if he would co-sponsor the Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act he declined and said not at this time. So, when John Mannion decided to run against him we decided to put our support behind him and John Mannion has been elected to represent CD 22 here in Central NY.

We had another upset in the Binghamton area as we built a relationship with Congressman Marc Molinaro and supported and endorsed him in CD 19. One of the reasons we did was because when we reached out to him to ask if he would co-sponsor the Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act when the International asked us to, he reviewed it and signed on the very next day. In that race Josh Riley ran against him and asked for our support but we do not walk away from any candidate, no matter what party affiliation, when we have a great relationship with them as an incumbent that we endorsed. Josh Riley did beat Marc Molinaro out of the CD 19 Congressional seat. Josh understood when he asked for our support and we declined but we will now build that relationship with Josh moving forward. Josh has already reached out to the Binghamton-Oneonta Building Trades to get together and we look forward to sitting down with him.

We continue to meet with County Executives & County Administrators in counties we have support pushing to get NACC/AGMT language added to special requirements in the specs. We were successful getting NACC added in the specs in Monroe County and believe the City of Rochester will be doing the same very shortly. In Broome County we are hopeful to get NACC and AGMT language added to their specs and will pass on the information as we get it. We also continue to work with Onondaga County and will update everyone when we know more.

I wish all a safe, healthy prosperous year!

Dan LaFrance

Political Director

# DC4 HAD OUR LARGEST ATTENDANCE EVER AT OUR ANNUAL GLASS & GLAZING FORUM.



# NEW TRAINING FACILITY IN ROCHESTER, NY



DC4 was happy to support the Multi Craft Pre Apprenticeship Program at the ribbon cutting for their new 60,000 sq ft Training Facility in Rochester, NY

# 1ST YEAR CNY APPRENTICES ENGAGING IN INTRO TO ORGANIZING & SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST CLASSES.



## LIFE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

I wanted to make sure members are aware that once you retire and have at least 20 years in, you can apply for reduced dues. This qualifies you to obtain the current \$3000 life member benefit. The IUPAT only credits back 4 months of the regular dues amount so when you retire, please call me right away and I can have you fill out the application so they can process it and you can start paying the reduced life member rate at the point you actually retired. Thank you!

Shannon Albano

Administrator of Dues Collection

716-565-0303 ext #21

### IUPAT Scholarships:

The IUPAT offers two scholarship opportunities to dependents of members in good standing. The deadline date for the S. Frank "Bud" Raftery and A.L. "Mike" Monroe/Ralph D. Williams, III Sports Scholarship is May 30, 2025. Winners will be announced in June 2025.

### Local 43 and 112 Scholarship:

This scholarship opportunity is available to current members of Locals 43 and 112, as well as their immediate family. There is \$1500 available for up to 4 years of qualifying school expenses at an accredited college (no technical schools). Applicants can be already enrolled in college and previous applicants may also reapply. We will be accepting applications beginning April 1st and the deadline for applications is July 1st.

Applications for these scholarships can be found on the dc4.org website. If you have any questions regarding these opportunities or if you need an application, please contact Heather Lewandowski at (716)565-0303.



Western New York Office  
585 Aero Dr.  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Central New York Office  
1875 Lorings Crossing Rd.  
Cortland, NY 13045

716-565-0112

www.dc4.org

ftiwcny@dc4.org

### Graduates 4/1/22 through 11/20/24

#### **Buffalo Drywall Taper**

Krysten Scott

#### **Rochester Drywall Taper**

Michael Argento

Matthew Wilson

#### **Binghamton Glazier**

Martin Buchinsky

Jeremy Henning

Warren Long

Brittany Zajak

#### **Buffalo Glazier**

Jeff Bellamy

Michael Chmielewski

Daniel Knoble

Thomas Kolt

George LaPrell

Stephen Lowczyns

Max McCulloch

Richard Meunier

Seamus Ormond

David Paglicci

Natthapong Thainpom

Mark Wesolowski

#### **Syracuse Glazier**

Stephen Prestigiaco

#### **Binghamton Painter**

Justin Kemp

Matthew Stewart

Brandon White

#### **Buffalo Painter**

Darren Floyd

Joseph Hovey Jr.

Justin Howe

Shanel Lamson

Jeremiah McGaughey

Randolph Mundt

Steven Salisbury

Ryan Wood

#### **Elmira Painter**

Brian Jones

#### **Oswego Painter**

Hunter Cardinale

#### **Rochester Painter**

Austin Gushue

Elizabeth Hagan

Kayla Tuffo

#### **Buffalo Bride Painter**

Joseph Carroccia

Samuel Jacobi

Mark Leli

Jorge Nataren-Perdomo



International Union of Painters  
and Allied Trades of America and Canada, AFL-CIO  
585 Aero Drive  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

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*Proudly Serving Western  
and Central New York in the  
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Monroe, Niagara, Oneida,  
Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans,  
Oswego, Otsego, Schuyler,  
Seneca, Steuben,  
St. Lawrence, Tioga,  
Tompkins, Wayne,  
Wyoming and Yates*



## D.C. #4 LOCAL MEETING NIGHTS

	MEETING HALL LOCATIONS	MEETING NIGHT	CITY/TOWN
#11	701 West State St.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 5:30pm	Ithaca
#17	585 Aero Drive	Meets Quarterly	Cheektowaga
#31	615 West Genesee St.	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 6:00pm	Syracuse
#38	216 Cayuga St.	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:00pm	Fulton
#43	585 Aero Drive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:00pm	Cheektowaga
#112	585 Aero Drive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday, 6:00pm	Cheektowaga
#150	244 Paul Rd.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 4:30pm	Rochester
#178	701 West State St.	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 5:00pm	Ithaca
#660	585 Aero Drive	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday, 6:30pm	Cheektowaga
#677	6605 Pittsford Palmyra Rd.	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 5:00pm	Fairport
#1203	625 Delaware	Meets Quarterly	Buffalo

## LOOKING FOR WORK?

### Call the Regional Business Representative:

#### Buffalo/Niagara Falls/Jamestown/Olean

Dominic Zirilli (716) 393-7915  
dzirilli@dc4.org

Brian Lipczynski (716) 429-7489  
blipczynski@dc4.org

#### Ithaca/Elmira/Binghamton

Dan Jackson (315) 744-5280  
djackson@dc4.org

#### Oswego/Watertown/Syracuse

Dan LaFrance (315) 396-3301  
dlafrance@dc4.org

#### Rochester

David Chaffee (585) 413-8699  
dchaffee@dc4.org

#### Rochester/Syracuse/Binghamton

Joe Comfort (585) 727-6228  
jcomfort@dc4.org