

# LOCAL 521 CONVENTION



**October 7-9, 2011**

**SEIU Local 521 Office, 2302 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95131**

July 2011

(408) 678-3300

www.seiu521.org

## **Delegate Nominations Are Now Open**

If you are interested in becoming a convention delegate or nominating a co-worker, please fill out the enclosed nomination form and return by mail postmarked no later than Friday, August 26, 2011, or by fax or hand-delivery no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, August 31, 2011.

### DELEGATE & ELECTION RULES

- ◆ Each of the Local's 100-plus Chapters gets to send at least one delegate to the Convention. Members working under one employer are considered one chapter.
- ◆ Chapters with over 25 and up to 200 members get 2 delegates.
- ◆ Chapters with more than 200 members get 2 delegates PLUS additional delegates in proportion to the chapter's size. See SEIU Local 521 website, [www.seiu521.org](http://www.seiu521.org), for proportional figures.

### WHO CAN BE A DELEGATE?

- ◆ Members must be in good standing for one year by July 31, 2011 to be eligible to run for delegate.
- ◆ All candidates for delegate must have nomination petitions signed by members from their chapters.
- ◆ **Chapters with more than 2,000 members:** must collect a minimum of 30 signatures.
- ◆ **Chapters with 200 - 1,999 members:** must collect a minimum of 20 signatures.
- ◆ **Chapters with fewer than 200 members, members of our Homecare chapters, and retired members:** must collect a minimum of 10 signatures or signatures of half of the membership in good standing, whichever is less.

### ELECTING DELEGATES

1. All delegate elections will be developed by individual Chapters and must be approved by the Election Committee. In smaller Chapters, for example, voting could take place at a membership meeting. Larger Chapters may opt to hold elections at several sites.
2. Chapters with more than 300 members must ensure there is diversity of classification, industry, bargaining unit, and/or departments in their elected delegation.
3. Per Article V of the Local 521 Bylaws, Executive Officers of SEIU 521 are automatically seated as convention delegates. Executive Board delegates are not automatically seated and must run for a position as delegate to the convention.
4. No one should have to travel more than one hour from his or her home or workplace to vote. There will be no proxy voting or mail ballots.
5. Only members are eligible to vote. Membership cards may be turned in at the time of voting to qualify new members to vote.
6. Election rules, sites, times will be posted on the SEIU 521 website.

### TIMELINE

July 25, 2011	July 25 - Aug 31, 2011	Aug 1 - 31, 2011	September 12, 2011	October 7 - 9, 2011
<b>Nominations Open</b>  Nomination petitions available for delegate candidates. See SEIU Local 521 website or call your local union office.	<b>Nominations period</b>  Nomination Petitions must be postmarked by August 26, 2011 and received by the union office no later than 5:00pm August 31.	<b>Voting Period</b>  Dates and times will be announced by Chapter.	<b>Delegates are seated</b>	<b>Constitutional Convention</b>  (Housing information will follow)

# The Purple Buzz

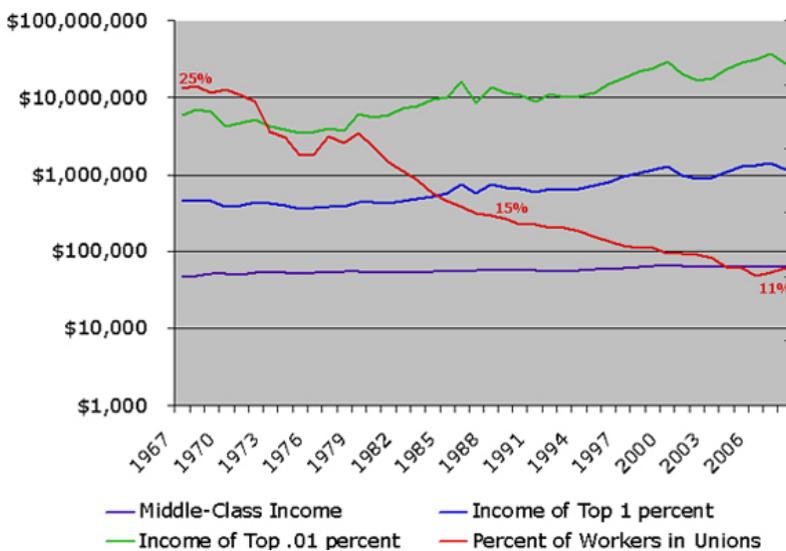


## State Budget: SEIU 521 members waged a good fight

We needed our leaders to come together and maintain revenues to prevent deeper cuts to the things that matter. But we got stuck with another year of cuts.

Here is what SEIU 521 Region 2 Vice President Matt Nathanson said: *“It is clear we need to find more resources to fund vital California services, be they libraries, schools, parks, health care or local government. Otherwise, California will continue to fade.”*

### The numbers don't lie



Executive pay going up, union density going down, middle class income stagnant. That's not a coincidence.

Read more about why we need to fight for a fair economy at [www.seiu521.org](http://www.seiu521.org)

### **Contracts Ratified: City of Salinas, Santa Cruz County, Monterey County**

**SALINAS:** After months of negotiations, City of Salinas workers overwhelmingly approved their new contracts. Originally faced with 66 layoffs, members negotiated a contract extension until 2015 with no layoffs and no increases in healthcare.

**MONTEREY:** Monterey County members overwhelmingly ratified their contract with more than 83% voting YES on Thursday, July 7. With the County still feeling the pinch of the recession – and budget deficits reaching the state level – the bargaining team worked hard to ensure that saving jobs and services was priority #1.

**SANTA CRUZ:** Santa Cruz County members ratified their contract on July 8 with about 80% YES votes. Faced with a \$14 million county deficit – and approximately 80 jobs on the chopping block – the bargaining team worked hard to protect healthcare, save as many jobs as possible, and ensure that workers didn't have to contribute more than their fair share to balance the budget.

### Actions from Around 521

SANTA CLARA COUNTY	TULARE COUNTY	VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
<p>One thousand Santa Clara County workers rallied on July 11 and won a strike sanction from the South Bay Labor Council. Workers are fighting back county demands for \$53 million in concessions, or roughly \$6,600 per SEIU 521 worker per year.</p> 	<p>Tulare County's bargaining team is pushing back a county proposal for stagnant wages. To improve working conditions, we are calling for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binding arbitration, so that the discipline and grievance processes are more fair.</li> <li>• Allowing members to carry only one phone and getting a stipend equal to the cost of a county-issued phone.</li> </ul>	<p>VTA workers are fighting back management's demand of two-tier pensions for new hires. Why? Because a two-tier is politically motivated, divides VTA members and weakens our union.</p> 