



"My name is Omar Batres, and I have been a union member for over four years. I work as a Locksmith for the Cupertino Union School District. After a year of working within the district, I was able to develop friendships and make great connections, which allowed me to be voted in as the president of my chapter in a little over a year. Working in the corporate world before and working with the union now has shown me that we are chosen to be leaders by our members so they are given a voice that they may never have had."

— **Omar Batres**, Locksmith, Cupertino Union School District

Robert Brizuela, Social Worker I, County of Santa Clara
(no photo or statement submitted)



"I am the first elected Vice President of the Kern Medical Chapter of SEIU 521, a shop steward, CAT team member, delegate to the Kern-Inyo-Mono Central Labor Council and Kern COPE recorder. As a delegate to the International Convention I would be honored to represent members of my chapter and local in furthering SEIU International's Vision for a Just Society at this year's convention. I humbly ask for your vote this April!"

— **Todd Carey**, Sr. Food Service Worker, Kern Medical

Teng Cha, Lead Custodian, Fresno Unified School District
(no photo or statement submitted)



"I've been working with Local SEIU for employee advocacy since SEIU 535 to the transition to SEIU 521. I am currently Stanislaus County Chapter President and Region 3 Trustee Representative. If given the opportunity to attend the Local SEIU 521 Convention 2024, I would be glad to contribute my time and efforts in making a difference in the advocacy for the working class, display the necessity for unions and be involved in the formalization of documented standards of operational and/or regulatory practices as the Region 3 Trustee. I hope I get that opportunity!"

— **Karyn Clark**, Behavioral Health Splst. II, County of Stanislaus



"A huge thank you to my Stanislaus County members who took the time to sign my petition for me to be nominated to attend the SEIU International Convention this year 2024. As your 2nd term vice-president, I will continue to represent, negotiate, and fight for the right of all Stanislaus County members. As with other chapters, we are faced with many upcoming challenges, and will continue to do our best to make workplace improvements, fair wages, and benefits for all. Transparency and integrity matters to me. I will always prioritize the needs and wants of our members as well as the community."

— **Renee Crawford**, Social Worker V, County of Stanislaus



"My name is Cynthia Benitez. I have been a County Of Monterey Employee for 18+ years as a PSRII for Clinic Services, Health Department. I became more involved in my Chapter SEIU 521 Region 2, because I felt that our members needed more representation in the Department. So at the present time I am a Union Steward for Unit J, Chapter Board - Director and I am on the Bargain Team for the 2nd time. I feel I would be a good candidate as a Delegate to represent my fellow Union Members SEIU 521."

— **Cynthia Benitez**, Patient services Representative II, County of Monterey

David Camacho Jr., Animal Control Officer, County of Kern
(no photo or statement submitted)



"My Name is Yvette Carreon and I am a Licensed Psychiatric Social Worker. Worked in both Behavioral Health and the hospital setting, familiar with healthcare, social service, and mental health needs of the community. I've participated in bargaining, campaigning, lobbying with politicians to advocate for healthcare, recruitment and retention, staffing shortages and workload demands. I am on the local chapter board, an executive board delegate, a Chair for the Committee on Political Education (COPE), part of the SEIU safety and budget and finance committee. I am also an active member of the (Diversity, Equity, Inclusivity, Belonging (DEIB) committee."

— **Yvette Carreon**, Behavioral Health Unit Supervisor, County of Monterey

Arvelia Cooper-Whigham, Retired Members Chapter
(no photo or statement submitted)



"Hello, I am Francis Coronado Retired Fresno County Probation employee. I am from a Union family, my father worked for Cesar Chavez and always instilled in us the importance of being involved in the Union. I was active in my Union and became a Shop Steward with Fresno County so I could advocate for other members who had issues/concerns with management. Before being employed with Fresno County I was a shop steward at Teamsters with Dell Monte Foods in Hanford, CA for 16 years as a forklift driver. I would appreciate your vote."

— **Francis Coronado**, Retired Members Chapter

Julie Dodd, Social Worker IV, County of Madera
(no photo or statement submitted)

Deon Duffey, Behavioral Health Recovery Splst., County of Kern
(no photo or statement submitted)



"Since 2013, I've been a school bus driver for Cupertino Union School District. I decided to become a Union Representative because I believe workers should receive fair treatment, wages, benefits and I enjoy improving the work place environment. One victory that is especially personal for me is healthcare insurance coverage we won for our members. Our members now enjoy better rates, thus allowing them to chose better healthcare coverage for themselves and their family. As a mother, I fight to make the workforce better for my kids and the next generation. Thank you."

— **Maria Fernandez**, Bus Driver, Cupertino Union School District



"SEIU staff since 2017 and participated in union organizing campaigns in 3 different states in grocery, healthcare, public sector, and private sector non-profit. One thing I have learned is unions live and die on their level of democracy. As a delegate to the SEIU convention I will forcefully represent the voice of 521. I will be reporting back to my stewards regularly, ensuring they can communicate to members. The resolutions passed at this convention helps shape our strategy to bring about our unrealized potential. I will fight to make sure that is done as powerfully as possible."

— **Jessen Fox**, Internal Organizer, SEIU Local 521 Staff



"Brothers and Sisters of SEIU, Mike Garcia here. I am a SEIU 521 Shop Steward. I have been a County employee for over 18 years now and a SEIU member for 17. I enjoy my role as Steward, being able to represent my coworkers and battle for them at Labor Management meetings, meet and confers, etc. I'm not afraid to speak up for what is right and I will always be there for anyone who needs my assistance, whether it be for representation, advice, or just as a good old fashioned friend. Thank you for your consideration."

— **Michael Garcia**, Eligibility Worker III, County of Fresno



"Mi nombre es, Celia Garza soy una Probedora de ninos de la temprá edad. Me gruade como asistente de maestra en 03/04/2010 Family childcare training facilty un programa pgado por el condado de Santa Clara en San Jose California. Tengo mi propia guarderia Guely's Family Daycare. Siempre me mantenido active en todos los programas de la comunidad apoyando a las familia's. En el ano 2014 me registre a sun sindicato para apoyo de probedoras. E asistido, a juntas, marchas en Sacramento California, tocando puertas a mas companeras que se unineran es como ibamos a poder lograr que utubiernos una."

— **Celia Garza**, Licensed Child Care Provider, Child Care Providers United California



"Dear Brothers and Sisters from SEIU521, I am very excited to have been nominated for the SEIU International Convention, but in order to go, I need your vote! This experience will allow me to learn more and broaden my views in the labor movement of our Union. I became a Steward last year and I intend to represent our members to the best of my ability and opportunities like this, will make me grow and become a better representative. Therefore, I ask for your Vote and help me grow our Union Power!"

— **Jesus Flores Canchola**, Patient Transporter, County of Santa Clara



"I have been a union member for over twenty years! I joined SEIU 521 when I started employment for Fresno County! I am now retired and I continue to volunteer in the retiree caucus! I believe in the strength and benefits of being a union member ! I will be proud to represent my fellow union members at International Convention!"

— **Effie "Belle" Franklin**, Retired Members Chapter



"My name is Dawn Gallegos. I have been involved with the union for over 20 years. I enjoy fighting for employee rights, pay increases, medical benefits and to be treated fairly. I am involved in 5 different caucuses and enjoy educating members on any information I have learned. I like to learn all I can."

— **Dawn Gallegos**, Retired Members Chapter



"I would be honored to represent all 521 members at the 2024 SEIU Convention. As an active retiree delegate I serve on the 521 Executive Board, South Bay Labor Council and local Democratic party, viewing all issues through my labor lens. Last year I participated in many actions to lift up and bring dignity to all workers like fast food workers rallies, the striking Sag-Aftra writers, a CARA-sponsored trek to Bakersfield-district office of (now former) Speaker Kevin McCarthy- warning him to keep his hands off Medicare and Social Security and precinct walking for labor candidates- go Betty!"

— **Carol Garvey**, Retired Members Chapter



"Hi, 521 members! I'm Sarah Gianocaró, occupational therapist and since 2020, chapter president of the Santa Clara County Office of Education chapter. I'm proud to lead our chapter of nearly 1100 permanent worker members and hundreds of substitute workers as we build worker power, win against bad management, and negotiate to improve our working conditions, including a historic contract in 2022. We hope to continue building relationships with other bargaining units here at SCCOE as well as other chapters in our local so that every worker everywhere has Safety, Equity and Accountability in the workplace."

— **Sarah Gianocaró**, Occupational Therapist II, Santa Clara County COE



"I'm Kellie Guevara, an accountant at Santa Clara County Office of Education and a member of SEIU 521 since 2011. Within SCCOE, I serve as a bargaining team member, engaged in our third contract negotiation. Additionally, I fulfill roles as a job steward and SEIU representative on various committees. Beyond SCCOE, I contribute as a delegate on the South Bay Labor Council, alternate delegate on the SEIU Executive Board, and member of the SEIU Pension Committee, amplifying SEIU's impact locally and beyond."

— **Catalina "Kellie" Guevara**, Accountant II, Santa Clara County COE

"SEIU and I became Stronger Together and started causing GOOD Trouble when I signed my first and only union card, on October 5, 1986.

I have always fought for the rights of my Union brothers and sisters and been a voice when they have had to remain silent. Through the years I have fought this fight in many ways - including participating, educating, organizing, and representing.

All of these activities, including being a Local and Regional officer, Caucus officer and Shop Steward, have helped me strengthen my continued fight for being a voice for everyone and equality for all."

— **Jennifer Jensen**, Retired Members Chapter

Carlos Murillo, Food Service Worker II, County of Santa Clara
(no photo or statement submitted)



"Hello brothers and sisters! In this past 3 years I have been serving you at O'Connor Hospital in the capacity of Chief Steward. I have been able to work with several stewards/members from all over the Santa Clara Chapter which has allowed me to learn from different perspectives and experiences. I ask for your vote so that I can broaden my knowledge

and become a stronger asset to our members. Good luck to my fellow candidates."

— **Andre Oliveira**, Janitor, County of Santa Clara



"Send me to Philly as a Delegate from the Central Valley of California. I have been working for and with the working class people for over 30 years now. When we fight, We Win!"

— **Darlynn Qualls**, Retired Members Chapter

Esther Rojas-Jasso, Substitute Teacher, FASTA
(no photo or statement submitted)

Rosario Romero, Human Services Supervisor, County of Kern
(no photo or statement submitted)



"My name is Derrick Sanderlin. I'm here to represent Sacred Heart workers as a convention delegate, and any other small chapters or non-profit workers that are tired of management mistaking their kindness for weakness."

— **Derrick Sanderlin**, Elections Organizer, Sacred Heart Community Service



"My name is Lupe Gutierrez. I am proud to represent the hard working members of SMCO/ Peninsula at the 2024 SEIU Intl. Convention. I have been a SEIU member since 1993. I am a Steward, the current Peninsula COPE Chair, the Region 1 Latino Caucus Vice Chair and Secretary, as well as the Vice Chair and Secretary of the Region 1

People With Disabilities Caucus. I am a firm believer that COPE and political involvement is how we better our working conditions and our lives. I am honored to have your vote. Thank you!"

— **Lupe Gutierrez**, Patient Services Asst. II, County of San Mateo



My name is Nancy Harvey, and I am a childcare provider in Oakland, specifically in West Oakland. I have been an active and highly effective advocate, childcare provider, and SEIU member for 15 years. I have demonstrated a strong passion for fighting for the childcare workforce, women, and people of

color. I fought long and hard and was instrumental in forming the Union for Childcare Providers, CCPU. While also a CCPU member, I have served on the CCPU Negotiation Team for the past two contracts. I have been a very outspoken member of the Joint Labor Management Committee, JLMC, for the Retirement Plan.

— **Nancy Harvey**, Licensed Child Care Provider Child Care Providers United California



"My name is Iris Magana Childcare Provider for more than 25+ years, a proud member of my union CCPU 521, also proud of myself for being part of the negotiation team, where I learned to advocate for my fellow educators and be part of this great family we call a union. and I would like to be part of the delegates to represent my fellow educators,

sisters and brothers and continue fighting for better salaries and benefits for all of us, because when we fight we win !!!"

"Mi nombre es Iris Magana, orgullosa miembro de mi sindicato CCPU 521. Orgullosa tambien de mí misma por ser parte del grupo de negociación, donde aprendí a abogar por mis compañeros educadores y ser parte de esta gran familia que llamamos sindicato. y me gustará a ser parte de los delegados para representar a mis compañeros educadores, hermanas y hermanos, para seguir luchando por mejores salarios y beneficios para todos nosotros. Porque cuando luchamos ganamos!!!"

— **Iris Magana**, Licensed Child Care Provider Child Care Providers United California

Jaleesah Otero, Social Worker III, County of Fresno
(no photo or statement submitted)



"My name is Eduviguez Ramirez and am from Mexico. I am a child care provider since 2016 in San Jose City, Ca, with experience in early childhood education for more than 12 years and holding a program director permit in Early Childhood Education. I joined the Local 521 union as soon as I opened my daycare and saw the union as the perfect ally that child care providers in Santa Clara County needed so much to end the abuse, racism and discrimination that a subsidy agency used to do against us. With this concern to defend and speak for those."

– **Eduviguez Ramirez**, Licensed Child Care Provider, Child Care Providers United California

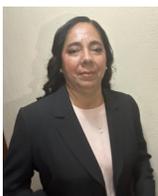
Pablo Sandoval, Facilities Maintenance Representative, Santa Clara VTA
(no photo or statement submitted)



"Greetings! I am Stacy Schmidt, a Park Maintenance Worker II with Santa Clara County Parks. I became a steward about three years ago and was a CAT for the last contract negotiation period. I have been a part of a specification revision, protecting our departmental agreement, and a grievance process. It is important to me

to increase contract knowledge and communication throughout our membership. I am part of the local Latino Caucus. I will report important resolutions to our steward group and the membership regularly. It is awesome to represent SEIU 521, helping protect our members' rights!"

– **Stacy Schmidt**, Park Maintenance Worker II, County of Santa Clara



"Blanca Soto, tengo 22 años de proveedora, en la unión llevo 8 años participado, en la unión he estado participando en las manifestaciones y reuniones para poder lograr los objetivos que necesitamos nosotros las proveedoras."

– **Blanca Soto**, Licensed Child Care Provider, Child Care Providers United California

Brian Tovar, Worker, Grnds Maint. II, Fresno Unified School District
(no photo or statement submitted)

Maria Vargas, Licensed Child Care Provider, Child Care Providers United California
(no photo or statement submitted)



"My name is Maisha Willis. I have been working with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority as an Office Timekeeping Technician for 9 years. I currently serve as the acting chief steward. I am an executive board delegate. I completed the member leader training. I was raised in a union household and watched my mother serve 3 terms as an officer. I was honored to be elected to serve on my chapter's negotiating team, where I helped lead a passionate fight for a strong and fair contract. I would love to attend the convention to continue my training and development."

– **Maisha Willis**, Office & Timekeeping Tech, Santa Clara VTA



"Dear SEIU 521 Members, I stand before you today as your dedicated COPE Chair for the Committee on Political Education (COPE). In my role, I have had the privilege of representing those among us who choose to be involved in the political process, advocating for elected officials who champion our cause. In addition to my work with SEIU 521, I serve in the Revenue Department at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) for 16 years, furthering my commitment to our community. I have participated in precinct walks for candidates running for office, ensuring our union's representation and voice are heard."

– **Yvette Simon**, Vault Room Worker, Santa Clara VTA



"I have been a union member since 1978, I have a wealth of experience and knowledge. I would be honored to be a part of this International Convention and hope everyone votes for me."

– **Rachel Subega**, Retired Members Chapter



"Ayanna is a proud mother of two amazing young men, a Zumba enthusiast, and a social strategist with over 15 years experience in child welfare with the last seven years advocating for racial equity and violence prevention.

Ayanna was nominated to chairperson on the Domestic Violence Council in January 2022, is co-chair of the African Ancestry Employee Committee, and an active member of the Native American Employee Committee. Ayanna is a SEIU 521 Steward, an advocate for the disproportionately impacted, and firm believer that "everything is figureoutable."

– **Ayanna Vanderbilt**, Social Services Analyst, County of Santa Clara

Michael Yslas, Custodian, Fresno Unified School District
(no photo or statement submitted)