



# BOTTOMLINE

*Dan Fields Jr. President*

*Debra Davis Vice President*

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*Marshall Jackson Editor*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**BY: DAN FIELDS JR.**



When you get this newsletter hopefully the pandemic will have subsided and the country will have reopened. The District of Columbia has already announced that it is planning to open up around June 12, 2021. Whether it is reopened or not, you should be congratulated on the dedication and work ethic that you showed during this time. You put your health and lives and the health and lives of your family on the line to assist, heal and protect those of us that were affected by the COVID-19 virus and other complications that arose from the virus.

You should be truly commended and you are the true heroes and heroines. Out of all of this we have your safety in mind. We want to remind you to make sure that you take all the precautions that are necessary and available to protect you and your family from illness and injury on the job.

All the PPE's in the world will not help you if you do not use them faithfully and properly. If you are not given this protection that is when you should contact your Union Representative. We have a list of Union Representatives on bulletin boards at Children's Hospital (Cafeteria) and the MedStar Washington Hospital Center (first floor near the bus circle).

We are also attempting to put language in the MedStar Washington Hospital Center's (MWHC) Contract that we refer to as the Essential Workers' Bill of Rights, which will demand protection for you, and to define when you can be mandated to take vaccinations for certain viruses, and your rights to refuse for medical and religious reasons. We will try to do the same thing when we negotiate the Children's Contract that expires on June 30, 2022. Almost one (1) year away.

We are also looking at ways to get you compensated when you work in such hazard times. This will be difficult because the mindset of the Healthcare field is that you knew the job was hazardous when you applied for and accepted the position. Some of you have been through other pandemic situations such as Tuberculosis, Ebola, H1N1, and Aids.

Even if we are not able to get additional pay for hazardous conditions in the contracts, we will continue to fight for it through legislation, both nationally and regionally. There are laws on the docket in Maryland and other states and jurisdictions that have been introduced for consideration of pay and provide protection for workers during pandemic times.

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### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Membership meetings are held from 2 - 4 pm on the third (3rd) Saturday of every month. Until further notice, meetings will be on Zoom so watch the bulletin boards for links updates and announcements.

### CONTACT OFFICE

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## REST PERIODS

Although they are not always guaranteed based on operational needs, Rest Periods are something that has been negotiated into the contract for all SEIU members. But many of us don't take advantage of them. With many of you getting assigned as sitters, you really need to press management for your breaks. You are being put in situations where many are falling asleep because they are sitting for long periods of time. This has been causing an increase of corrective actions for our members. So press whoever is in charge to ensure that you get your breaks.

At **WHC**, Article 4.9 of your current contract states that each associate shall be allowed one (1) fifteen (15) minute rest period during each four (4) hour period of his / her regularly scheduled shift (i.e. three (3) rest periods in a completed 12 hour shift). This is separate from your thirty (30) minute lunch. So if you are a sitter, press for your breaks so that you can stay awake.

At **CNMC** Article 4.03 states that each employee shall be entitled to two (2) fifteen (15) minute rest periods during the regularly scheduled eight (8) hour shift (one such break if scheduled for less than eight (8) hours. This is also separate from your thirty (30) minute lunch. So if you are a sitter, press for your breaks so that you can stay awake.

Take advantage of the benefits that has already been negotiated for you. If denied a break, document who you asked and when you asked, because if there's no reason to deny you we want to help protect you as well as your patient if something goes wrong.

## SEIU Local 722 Election Of Officers

**The officers of this local union shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer - Business Manager, (4) Trustees, and (8) elected members of the Executive Board. The (8) members shall be candidates nominated and elected by each unit where this local union is the exclusive Bargaining Representative as set forth in Article IX Section 25 of the Constitution and Bylaws.**

**The Local Union shall elect its officers by secret mail ballot once every three (3) years. All officers shall be members of this Local Union.**

**Nominations for officers shall be made at the November membership meeting in 1982 and every three (3) years thereafter. Elections, if required, shall be conducted within sixty (60) days but no less than fifteen (15) days thereafter.**

**The Secretary shall at least thirty (30) days prior to the holding of the Nomination meeting, give notice through the Local newspaper to the membership, of the time, place date, the officers for which nominations will be accepted and the method of making nominations.**

**The following eight Executive Board members elected must be employees in the bargaining units for which Local 722 is the exclusive bargaining representative:**

**Washington Hospital Center -five (5) Executive Board Members**

**Children's Hospital - two (2) Board Members**

**Bio-Medical Applications - one (1) Executive Board Member**



***"Freedom is Never Voluntarily given by the Oppressor  
It Must be Demanded by the Oppressed"***

The National African American Caucus of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) is committed to enhancing opportunities for education, training mentor-ship, leadership development and networking for SEIU members and staff of African descent.

We further engage to promote social, economic and political justice within our workplace, our communities, our nation and within our union.

We shall further encourage our members to actively engage in efforts to organize the unorganized and to fully participate in the development and implementation of labor's political agenda and programs. Over the years:



**We saw courage.**  
**We saw sacrifice.**  
**We saw pride.**  
**We saw solidarity.**  
**We saw death.**  
**We saw destruction.**  
**We saw despair.**  
**We saw hate.**



As the nation moves forward, we hope to see **GRACE** and **LOVE** abound. This year will be our time to push forward while America is in this time of reckoning and period of awakening. We cannot afford to sleep. We must remain "WOKE" and focused.

**WE NEED TO CREATE THE DREAM WE SEEK AS WE EMERGE FROM THIS NIGHTMARE.**

As the nation rebuilds, so shall we. We worked hard and elected a new President and Vice-President. This is OUR TIME. The pandemic did not divide us. Quite the opposite, it drove us closer together. And for those who have yet to be connected with the positive energy and changes needed to move forward, we welcome and embrace you and your ideas for future SOLIDARITY.

So, to our seasoned AFRAM veterans and to our newest AFRAM soldiers, we say:

**"Welcome to AFRAM"**

# Alton Akinsegun / Marchel Smiley Scholarship

SEIU Local 722 scholarship applications will be made available to members on May 1st who are in good standings (current dues payer for 1 year prior to application deadline).

Completed applications with all supportive documents must be received in the union office no later than July 1st. There will be no exceptions.

The Alton Akinsegun Scholarship will be awarded to union members in good standing: current dues payer for 1 year prior to application deadline; who meets the criteria set forth in this application.

The Marchel Smiley Scholarship will be awarded to children under the age of 23 who has a legal guardian (proof may be required) that is a member of SEIU Local 722 in good standing (current dues payer for 1 year prior to application deadline). The child must meet the criteria set forth in this application.

## PART I

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_
3. Address \_\_\_\_\_
4. Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_
5. How are you affiliated with Local 722 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Parent / Legal Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_
7. Name, Address and Phone number of the Admissions Office to the institution of higher education that you will be attending if this scholarship will be granted to you. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Are you enrolled:  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior  part-time  full-time
9. What is your major or contemplated major / profession \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II

If you are a child of an SEIU Local 722 member, please provide an essay (minimum 500 words) on any Labor Relations topic of your choice. If you are a member of SEIU Local 722, you must provide an essay (minimum of 500 words) on a topic that will be beneficial to members of SEIU Local 722.

## PART III

1. Please explain how furthering your education will help you contribute to the growth and development of the Labor Movement.
2. What advice or words of wisdom/encouragement can you offer the youth of today's society?
3. Submit at least (2) two letters of recommendations from Local 722 members who have direct knowledge of your academic plans. Each recommendation letter must contain: Name, shift, work location and work phone number of the person making the recommendation.

**PROOF OF ENROLLMENT IS REQUIRED WITH ALL APPLICATIONS !!!**

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN UNION OFFICE BY JULY 1st !!!**

**\*\*\*\*\* NO EXCEPTIONS \*\*\*\*\***

Submit completed applications with all supportive documents to: SEIU Local 722 Attn: Scholarship Committee 1673 Columbia Road Suite #100 N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009



**May 21, 2021**

**Letter from the Mayor**

Dear Washingtonians,

On Saturday, May 1, more than 1,000 volunteers came out to help neighbors across DC make a plan to get vaccinated. Now that we have enough vaccine for every resident who wants one, we know that many vaccinations will happen because of conversations between friends, family, and neighbors. Joining us for the Day of Action is an opportunity to share your experience with getting vaccinated with neighbors who might still have questions or concerns.

While we're out, we'll make sure people know:

- All people 12 and older are eligible to take the vaccine
- The vaccines are safe, free, and available at walk-up sites across DC
- Now that most capacity limits and restrictions have been lifted in DC, being vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself against COVID-19 while enjoying all DC has to offer

**We will also share information about how residents can get help paying rent and utility bills through the STAY DC program. We need any resident struggling to pay their bills to know that through STAY DC they can get:**

- **12 months of back rent paid**
- **3-6 months of forward rent paid**
- **utility (gas, water, and electricity) bills paid**

If you want to help us spread the word, go to [bit.ly/dayofactiondc](https://bit.ly/dayofactiondc) and sign up for a canvassing shift.

**SEIU LOCAL 722**

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We have teamed up with other Unions and organizations that have a stake in protecting workers. Collectively we are pushing legislators to respect, protect and pay workers for the essential work they provide to keep our society moving. We believe that without the workers, companies will not stay alive. Again, we thank you for your tremendous support and work ethics during these trying times. It is with pride that we say we are proud to represent workers such as yourself.

