



Business Manager Report

February 2024

Work Picture

Hiring remains slow for Mechanics
Assistant Mechanic Agreements are being signed

IUEC 18 Stats

Mechanics 1906 Apprentices 500 Helpers 3 Total 2410 Probationary 125

IUEC Fatalities

Medical related fatalities during the workday
Visiting a physician before getting sick

Building Trades

Maintaining solidarity
Upcoming elections and candidates

On Site Training

EIWPF training instructors
Summer Continuing Education Courses

Joe Gealon

Meeting dedication



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL NO. 18 • AFL-CIO

Business Manager Report February 2024 Tony Gazzaniga

Work Picture

Hiring remains slow within Local 18 for mechanics. With apprentices completing their Mechanic Exam, many of them are being asked to sign an Assistant Mechanics Agreement. This leaves employers with a workforce of highly qualified elevator constructor teams. The need for apprentices also has slowed a notch with a few more layoffs than referrals this past month. The work picture in San Diego has leveled off but we can report that all the members living in the San Diego Area are employed. Las Vegas is in the quiet before the storm period and it is expected to last about a year before some projects start up. We have found some opportunities for members to work in other Locals within our region.

IUEC 18 Stats

Mechanics 1906	Apprentices 500	Helpers 3	Total 2410	Probationary 125
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Fall Arrest Anchorage Directive

We have received a directive from General President Christensen on fall protection anchorage points used in and around elevators. The [Fall Protection Anchorage Directive](#) comes on the heels of an interpretation from OSHA, particularly 1926.502(d)(15). The interpretation is clear; when an employee is performing work in or around a hoistway, and a vertical lifeline is used, the lifeline cannot be anchored to the same overhead beam that is used to suspend a car frame, platform, or other rigging apparatuses. Please notify your supervisor and a Business Agent if this condition exists. No employee should be exposed to serious injury or death arising from hazardous conditions in the workplace. The OSHA interpretation letter, as well as GP Christensen's directive, can be found on our website at IUEC18.org and is linked above for your reference.

IUEC Fatalities

There have been two recent fatalities involving members of Local 5 and Local 32. While both cases occurred during the workday, their deaths appeared to be caused by medical conditions and not workplace related. We appreciate the IUEC Safety Committee for keeping us informed in the timeliest manner possible. Our commitment to safety should be parallel with our commitment to our personal health. We all have access to a great medical plan, which includes regular checkups and prescreening for cancer and other diseases. We do not have to wait until we are sick to visit a doctor. Let's keep these brothers' loved ones in our thoughts and prayers and may they rest in peace.

Trustees Meetings

It is an honor and privilege to serve as Business Manager of Local 18 and as an International Union Trustee on the Pension Plan. I attended scheduled Trustees Meetings the week of February 19th and will report updates from these meetings upon returning to Local 18. Below is a recent change to our disability Weekly Income Benefit.

If you become totally disabled and are unable to work, the Benefit Plan offers a Weekly Income Benefit to you, for up to 26 weeks. The benefit amount has been increased to \$715 per week for eligible members. Benefits are payable when the Plan receives written proof that you are totally disabled due to injury, illness, or pregnancy and require the active care of a duly licensed physician.

It is the member's responsibility and duty to report to the hall when you are going out on disability **and** when you are released to return to work. To start a claim and additional information, please visit neibenefits.org and download the [Weekly Income Claim Form](#).

Building Trades

Your Business Representatives and I serve as delegates on all the Building Trades Councils within Local 18. Some of those duties include attending PLA meetings, vetting political candidates, and working closely with the other trades to maintain solidarity within the trades. Our market share along with our commitment to fight for our work makes IUEC Local 18 a strong voice and the envy of all the other trades.

I am currently serving as President of the LA/OC Building Trades Council and Kevin Branson recently worked on drafting the first PLA with the City of San Diego, which was signed this month. Our involvement is critical to protect our work and have the safest jobsites possible. It is also critical with our upcoming elections that our politicians know the concerns of Building Trades Members and the power Union families have. As always, we will forward information about candidates who support labor and all recommendations of the Building Trades and Labor Councils.

On Site Training

EIWPF has been using the Glendora Hall to train instructors to teach OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 courses. Our employers have also been utilizing NEIEP Instructors and NEIEP Curriculum for CPR/First Aide, Forklift, Hydro Valve and Rig/Sig certifications.

Local 18 made a commitment to build a first-class training facility to allow our members to invest in themselves. It is encouraging to see our members take advantage of the resources we have and continue to improve their skill set. Therefore, this summer, we plan to host in-person training courses for AC Motor Labs and Line Starter Labs. Welding courses will continue to be ongoing and available to all.

Certification and Licensing

The start of a new year is a good time to check the expiration dates on all your certifications and licenses. Make sure you complete your Continuing Education courses prior to your expiration date.

Beginning August 22, 2024, Mechanics with a Nevada State license will need to provide a certificate of Continuing Education with your renewal application. Please call the Hall if you have questions or need assistance getting enrolled in a course.

Los Angeles requires a LA City Journeyman License to work in the City of Los Angeles on conveyance equipment. Obtaining this license requires passing an exam administered by the City of LA Elevator Division. Procedures for applying are found on the website.

Continuing Education

If you passed your Mechanic Exam **after July 9, 2022**, Continuing Education is **required yearly**. It is strongly encouraged for all mechanics to maintain their knowledge and stay current with their education. The course NEIEP provides will fulfill the yearly requirement and align with the State of California certification. Once you complete the course, you will receive 8 hours of local wage rate.

Joe Gealon

President Webber dedicated our February Meeting to the memory of Brother Joe Gealon. Joe passed on February 14, 2017. I had the privilege of organizing Joe into Local 18; he soon became an Officer & later a Business Representative. At 51 years old, Joe was in the prime of his career and rolling as a Business Representative of Local 18. Joe had many passions, some of which included martial arts, fishing, diving with sharks, but most of all, being a great father to his kids.

Joe was a great Agent, winning grievances and recapturing our work. He worked tirelessly for the members. You could often find Joe at the Hall, long after everyone else had left preparing for the next battle. We knew when the smoke alarm went off, it was Joe with his vape pen. While Local 18 may have never seen a better fighter than Joe, what made him a great leader was that he was always there to protect us from whatever obstacle we faced. Joe was and still is a great inspiration for many of us who love and believe in this Union.

Work Safe,

Anthony Gazzaniga

Anthony Gazzaniga
Business Manager