

Working Hard for ALASKA

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December 1, 2015

RE: Negotiation update

Brothers and Sisters;

Your Local 71 team met with the State on November 24th to continue negotiations.

Throughout these negotiations Local 71 has stood fast against drastic take aways, elimination of overtime, cuts in leave accrual, a 500 hour cap on leave, reductions on Health Care contributions, huge rent increases, cutting call back pay, etc, etc, etc.

I met with Governor Walker, his Chief of Staff and the Commissioner from Department of Administration on November 16th to share thoughts and concerns about our negotiations. Judging from the November 24th negotiation I believe the Administration has a better understanding of the challenges we face and the importance of the services we provide throughout the state.

I don't believe it is Governor Walker's intention to balance the State Budget on the backs of Local 71. Everyone knows the State is at a financial crossroads and new sources of income must be explored. We can no longer depend solely on oil revenues to provide the necessary income to maintain this great state.

I was somewhat encouraged, guarded, but optimistic that we will reach an agreement. That said, due to the State's prior commitments and a heavy work-load, we do not anticipate meeting again until after the first of the year. I will keep you posted as negations continue.

REMEMBER

YOUR CONTRACT IS STILL IN EFFECT, ALL TERMS AND PROVI-SONS IN YOUR RED CONTRACT BOOK STAND UNLESS MODI-FIED WITH AN LOA (Letter of Agreement).

I wish you and your families a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

Aldred Maen