

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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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