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The VOICE of the ILWU—Published by Local 142, International Longshore & Warehouse Union

DICE OF THE ILV

November/December 2012

ADDRESS LABE

# Local 142 elects new officers

Union-wide elections held in November 2012 elected the top officers who will direct the work of the union for the next three years. Elected are 27 full-time officers, 13 rank-and-file members to the Local Executive Board, and 14 Delegates to the ILWU International Convention. The election results were announced on November 20, 2012, but candidates filed six challenges to the election. An ILWU Judicial Panel has ruled on challenges to the election results, and those decisions must be carried out before the results are final. A recount has been ordered for Oahu Division, as well as a rerun for one Oahu unit. All officers serve a term of three years, beginning January 2, 2013 and ending on January 1, 2016.

Members elected a new President, Donna Domingo from Maui, and a new Vice President, Teddy B. Espeleta from Maui. Guy Fujimura was elected to serve his ninth term as the union's Secretary-Treasurer, a position he has held since 1985.

The next highest positions are the five Division Directors—Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, Oahu, and Longshore—who administer the work of the union in their division. Elmer Gorospe was elected as Hawaii Division director; Stephen Castro was elected as head of Maui Division; Michael Yamaguchi was elected as the Oahu Division director; Michael Machado was re-elected as the Kauai Division director; and Nathan Lum was re-elected as the Longshore Division Director.

The division directors are charged with the responsibility of directing the work of their division and supervising the work of the business agents and division office staff.

The three titled officers and the five division directors also serve as the union's executive committee and meet monthly to coordinate the work of the union, particularly in the areas of contract negotiations and grievance handling.

#### **Business Agents**

On the Big Island, members will continue to see familiar faces, as four of their business agents were incumbents: Delbert DeRego, Gregory Gauthier, George Martin, and Corinna Salmo. Francine Masuhara-Molina will join the team as a newly elected business agent.

Maui Division will also see their former business agents return to office as four incumbents were re-elected: Robert Andrion Jr., Jerrybeth De Mello, Abel Kahoohanohano, and Claro Romero Jr. Stephen William West will join the team as a newly elected business agent. Oahu Division will see the biggest change with two incumbent and three new business agents elected. Incumbents Dillon M. Hullinger and Karl Lindo were re-elected. Oahu members elected three new business agents: Wilfred "Wil" Chang, Paris E.J. Fernandez, and Jose M. Miramontes Jr. Green was re-elected and Doreen H. Kua will come on board as a new business agent.

The Hawaii Longshore Division elected both of their incumbent business agents: Dennis Morton and Tyrone Tahara.

#### **Local Executive Board**

The ILWU Local Executive Board is composed of 21 people—the three top titled officers, the four island division directors, the longshore division director, and 13 rank-and-file members.

Rank-and-file members elected to the executive board are the four Division Trustees—Mary "Swanee" Rillanos (Hawaii), Douglas Cabading (Maui), Doreen Kua (Kauai), and Nathan "Nate" Lum (Oahu); the four Division Representatives—Myra Spencer (Hawaii), Steven J. Lee (Maui), Trudy Azeka (Kauai), and Todd N. Yamane (Oahu); and the five Industrial Group Representatives—William "Baba" Haole IV (longshore), Kelly Ruidas (sugar), Douglas Cabading (pineapple), Lynden Koerte (general trades), and Helene "Lei" Kaiahua-Sado (tourism).

International Executive Board members from Hawaii also sit on the Local Executive Board as observers. They are: Esther Manibog (sugar), Nathan Lum (longshore), Mathew Rodrigues (pineapple), Elmer Gorospe (general trades), and Kehau Oyamot-Maeha (tourism).\*

ILWU members approved the actions of the 26th ILWU Local 142 Convention by a wide margin in dozens of ratification meetings held from October 14 to December 3. Members approved a Constitutional amendment and a number of resolutions which are summarized on pages 5 and 6. The Convention was attended by 429 delegates and was held from September 18-21, 2012 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort in Honolulu. On the Inside

# Best Wishes for a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year



Kauai will have one incumbent and one new business agent. Incumbent Pamela

#### -from the Officers and staff of ILWU Local 142 "An Injury to One is an Injury to All"

The next Local 142 Executive Board (LEB) meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 am on March 15, 2013, in Honolulu at the ILWU building on 451 Atkinson Drive. ILWU members are welcome to attend as observers.

# International Officer Election Results

# **Incumbent Titled Officers will serve again**

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) confirmed the September 6, 2012 results of the ILWU's officers' election. The results stand as official as there were no challenges to the election received by the September 13, 2012 deadline as provided under Rule 17.A of the union's election rules.

The ILWU International Balloting Committee reported the results of the election after ballots were counted and tabulated at a meeting held on September 6, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in San Francisco, California.

All members of the Balloting Committee were present: Adam Mendez (ILWU Local 10), Francis Kamakaokalani (ILWU Local 142) and Sean Farley (ILWU Local 34). All members of the Election Procedures Committee were also present: Peter Peyton, Chair (Local 63), Doug Cabading (Local 142) and Cyrus Kodani (Local 142). (Kodani replaced Bruce Wade (Local 30) who could not attend the ballot count.)

The following ILWU officers and staff members were present: William Adams, Secretary-Treasurer; Russ Bargmann, Research Director, Alexa Jurczak, Assistant to the President, Linda Kuhn, Office Manager and John Castanho, Coast Benefits Specialist. Also present were the staff of Election Services Solutions; the vendor hired to conduct the mail ballot election.

A number of candidates and observers were present during the ballot count. They were: Melvin Mackay (candidate), Frank Gaskin (Observer for Dennis Young), Eddie Greenwood (Observer for Roger Boespflug), Angel Blanco (Observer for Roger Boespflug), and James Daw (Candidate and also Observer for Leal Sundet). Pete Ciaramitaro (63) and Kevin Wolfe (IL WU-PMA Interim Executive Director) were also present.

Election Services Solution management and staff were on hand to conduct the ballot count. At the end of the ballot count, the ballots and the envelopes were boxed, sealed and sent to Election Services Solutions for storage for one year. A total of 43,021 ballots were mailed; 7,824 ballots were returned and received by the Post Office; 7, 783 ballots were counted and 41 ballots were not counted (38 ballots were empty or blank and 3 were invalid).

#### **Election Results**

Four Titled Officers were elected: President Robert "Big Bob" McEllrath from Local 4 Vancouver; Vice President Mainland Ray A. Familathe from Local 13 Wilmington; Vice President Hawaii Wesley Furtado from Local 142 Hawaii; and Secretary-Treasurer William E. Adams Local 23 Tacoma.

Nineteen board members were elected. The following board members were elected from Local 142 Hawaii: Nathan (Nate) Lum for the Hawaii Longshore Industrial Group; Esther Manibog for the Sugar Industrial Group; Elmer C. Gorospe, Sr. for the General Trades Industrial Group; Kehau Oyamot-Maeha for the Tourism Industrial Group; and Matthew Rodrigues for the Hawaii Pineapple Industrial Group. Alan Cote will represent the IBU Marine Division; Landor Agustin Rankin was elected from the newly organized Panama Canal Division; Mark Gordienko will represent the Canada Region; Jack Liebengood will serve on the board from

the Southern California Mining Region; and Debbie (Mouse) Manowski was elected from the Alaska Region. The Southern California Region elected three board members: Michael Podue from Local 63 Marine Clerks San Pedro; Frank Ponce De Leon from Local 13 Wilmington; and Luisa Gratz from Local 26 Los Angeles.

Northern California board members include: Fred Pecker from Local 6 Oakland; Melvin Mackay from Local 10 San Francisco; and Rene Ducroux from Local 34 San Francisco. The Washington/ Puget Sound Region include: James D. Daw from Local 8 Portland and George O'Neil from Local 40 Portland. Board members from the Oregon/Columbia River Region will be; Max Vekich from Local 52 Seattle and Cameron Williams from Local 19 Seattle.

Elected to the Coast Committee for California was Ray Ortiz, Jr. from Local 13 Wilmington and the Coast Committee for the Northwest was Leal (Leo) Sundet from Local 8 Portland.

All International officers, board members, and coast committee members will serve a term of three years from 2012 to 2015.

## **ILWU International Titled Officer detailed election results**

	Presid	dent	Mainland Vic President	e	Hawaii Vice	e President	Secretary	r-Treasurer
REGION	McEllrath	Write-in	Familathe	Write-in	Furtado	Write-in	Adams	Write-in
Southern California	3,058	45	3,100	34	2,940	7	2,925	18
So. Calif. Desert Area	53	0	55	0	51	0	51	0
Northern California	562	14	532	9	547	3	548	8
Oregon & Columbia River	647	6	632	3	633	0	637	2
Puget Sound	736	5	704	2	702	0	723	6
Alaska	102	2	96	1	95	0	100	0
Canada	258	0	227	0	232	0	234	0
IBU-Marine Division	331	10	322	6	325	6	330	6
Hawaii	913	1	826	2	999	2	890	1
Panama Division	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0
GRAND TOTAL	6,671	83	6,505	57	6,535	18	6,449	41

## **ILWU International Executive Board detailed election results**

Hawaii - Pineapple	*Mathew Rodrigues	Northern California	*Fred Pecker	452
Hawaii - Gen Trades	*Elmer Gorospe	(Top 3 elected)	*Melvin Mackay	452
Hawaii - Sugar	*Esther Manibog		*Rene Ducroux	
Hawaii - Longshore	*Nathan Lum		Derek Peterson	229
	*Kehau Oyamot-Maeha	•	*James D. Daw	
		(Top 3 elected)	*George O'Neil	
Panama Division	*Londor Rankin11		Ryan Takas	
<b>.</b> .		Puget Sound	*Max Vekich, Jr	471
Canada	*Mark Gordienko 268	(Top 3 elected)	*Cameron Williams	380
			Conrad Spell	360
Southern California	*Frank Ponce De Leon		Darren Williams	172
(Top 3 elected)	*Michael A. Podue 2,417			
	**Joe Cortez 1,951	Alaska		
	*Luisa Gratz1,231		Dennis L. Young	57
	John L. Fageaux	elected as only one board membe	d the third highest votes in Southern Cal r may come from a Mainland local and Fr	ank Ponce De Leon
So. Calif. Desert Area	*Jack Liebengood61		than Cortez. Luisa Gratz was thus elected e board member per local limit does not a	

#### page 3

## **ILWU Local 142 Officer Election Results**

# Voting tallies for Local 142 for all Divisions

#### LOCAL TITLED OFFICERS—\*Elected

President	Hawaii	Maui	Kauai	Oahu	HLSD	Total
Biga, Sheldon	641	976	200	277	193	2,287
*Domingo, Donna	1,088	1,900	645	1,460	398	5,491
Vice President	Hawaii	Maui	Kauai	Oahu	HLSD	Total
*Espeleta, Teddy	613	2,096	497	1,210	345	4,761
Ishibashi, Wallace	1,198	713	313	502	222	2,948
Secretary-Treas.	Hawaii	Maui	Kauai	Oahu	HLSD	Total
*Fujimura, Guy K.	1,454	2,285	670	1,541	529	6,479

#### INDUSTRIAL GROUPING LOCAL EXECUTIVE **BOARD MEMBERS**—\*Elected

Sugar	*Ruidas, Kelly	
Longshore	*Haole IV, William P	
Pineapple	*Cabading, Douglas	114
<b>General Trades</b>	*Koerte, Lynden	
	Ponte, Bryon	1,213
Tourism	Johnson, Ronald	1,487
	*Kaiahua-Sado, Helene "Lei"	1,680

#### **HAWAII DIVISION**—\*Elected

Division Director	
*Gorospe, Elmer C.	1,526
Division Trustee	
*Rillanos, Mary "Swanee"	1,469
Local Executive Board	
*Spencer, Myra	1,415
Business Agent At-Large-5 to be elected	
*DeRego, Delbert	1,057
*Gauthier, Greg	1,116
*Martin, George	1,178
*Masuhara-Molina, Francine	1,012
*Salmo, Corinna	1,130
Hawaii Division—2015 International Convention Delegates	
General Trades—No Candidate	
Tourism—No Candidate	
At-Large—No Candidates	

#### **MAUI DIVISION**—\*Elected

Division Director	
*Castro, Stephen "Steve"	
Division Trustee	
*Cabading, Douglas	
Local Executive Board	
*Lee, Steven J.	
Business Agent At-Large—5 to be elected	
*Andrion, Robert "Bobby"	1,673
Baltero Sr., Jeofrey Bello	
*DeMello, Jerrybeth (J.B.)	
Ibuos, Ruel	
*Kahoohanohano, Jr., Abel L	
Kodani, Cyrus M	
-	

#### **KAUAI DIVISION**—\*Elected

Division Director	
*Machado, Michael	
Division Trustee	
*Kua, Doreen	
Local Executive Board	
*Azeka, Trudy 433	
Garcia, Sr., Jon D 329	
Business Agent At-Large—2 to be elected	
Garcia, Davin Jabba	
*Green, Pamela	
Kimura, Alan King242	
*Kua, Doreen H	
Morton, Earl A54	
Pauletto, Mia R 147	
Kauai Division—2015 International Convention Delegates	
General Trades—No Candidates	
Tourism—*Azeka, Trudy	
At Large-Garcia, Sr., Jon D684	

#### **OAHU DIVISION**—\*Elected

<b>Division Director</b>		
Mori, Dave K		
*Yamaguchi, Mich	ael S 1,096	
<b>Division Trustee</b>		
*Lum, Nathan "Na	.te"	
Local Executive Boa	ard	
*Yamane, Todd N		
<b>Business Agent At-L</b>	.arge—5 to be elected	
Ambrose, Shane		
*Chang, Wilfred "Wil"990		
DeCosta, Patrick "Rick" 598		
*Fernandez, Paris E.J95		
*Hullinger, Dillon M 1,017		
*Lindo, Karl		
*Miramontes, Jose	e M	
Oahu Division-201	5 International Convention Delegates	
General Trades	Kam, Eldron "Kam" 1,367	
Tourism	Oyamot-Maeha, DonnaLee 103	
At Large	Higa Jr., Jeff 1,571	

#### **LONGSHORE DIVISION**—\*Elected

Division Director	
Evangelista, Robert "Bobby"	190
*Lum, Nathan "Nate"	497
Vice Division Directors-2 to be elected	
Calles, Elgin K.	279
Dawson, Dustin	
*Haole IV, William P. "Baba"	
Kreutz, Henry E.	165
Division Secretary-Treasurer	
*Brown, Charles Kimo	548
Oahu Division Trustee	
*Lum, Nathan "Nate"	1,790

Medeiros, Jason	Η	1.083	Ductions Amount At Lowers Oto by
			Business Agent At-Large-2 to be Hayashi, Eddie K.M.
-	ro		Mariani, Ward
Truong, David Es	scobar	410	*Morton, Dennis
*West, Stephen V	Villiam	1,240	Searle, Sam C.
Maui Division-201	5 International Convention Delegates		*Tahara, Tyrone K
Sugar	*DeLara, Wayne		Longshore Division—
Pineapple	*Cabading, Douglas	33	2015 International
General Trades	*Gonsalves, Marc		Convention Delegates
	Sagayaga, Gary		Oahu *Kamoe, Richard B 436
Tourism	Ariaga, Candace	524	Kauai *Rita, Nelson K
	*Barsatan Vila, Flora	550	Maui *Stisher, Michele
	Bunyard, Michael	443	Victorino Jr., Michael P 23
At-Large	DeLeon, Orlando	901	Hawaii–No Candidates
	*Fernandez Jr., Joseph J.F		At-Large*Brown, Charles Kimo 561
	Kuhia, Frederick Jason K	435	Arearge brown, onanes kind 301

*Lum, Nathan "Nate"	
Business Agent At-Large-2 to be e	elected
Hayashi, Eddie K.M	
Mariani, Ward	
*Morton, Dennis	
Searle, Sam C	
*Tahara, Tyrone K	
Longshore Division—	
2015 International	
Convention Delegates	VOICE OF THE ILWU
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The following was presented by Convention guest speaker Lowell Chun-Hoon. Chun-Hoon is a partner of the law firm King, Nakamura and Chun-Hoon, which has defended the union and union members since the 1940s.

It is a real part of the strength of this union that you have political leaders like President Obama, Senators Inouye and Akaka . . . who support ILWU Local 142 and appreciate the contributions you and your union have made to Hawaii. A huge part of these contributions is celebrated in Tom Coffman's superb biography of Ed Nakamura: I Respectfully Dissent. I'd like to talk today about this book, about Ed Nakamura, and what I think the book and Ed's life means for the ILWU today.

That's great that the ILWU transformed Hawaii from a feudal society dependent on sugar cane production into a multiracial democracy: but what have you done for me lately? What is the union doing NOW besides collecting dues? These are questions we cannot ignore. It is far too easy to become complacent and to do what we do: worry about hanging on to our wages and our pensions; try to educate our

children; care for our aging parents; pay our mortgages, if we're lucky enough to have a home.

The world has changed. The sugar plantations are closed. Mechanization is the wave of the future on the docks. So if the

We all assume if we can't work and are not guilty of misconduct that we can apply to unemployment and that it's our right. This wasn't always so. Someone had to write that law and perfect it. That person was Ed Nakamura.

world has changed so much, why should we give a rip about Ed Nakamura, who retired in 1989 and died in 1997, and Tom Coffman's book?

I Respectfully Dissent is a soaring story of a waiter's son who rose through McKinley High School, the University of Hawaii to fight fascism in Europe and imperialism in East Asia for the star and stripes. But it is also and more importantly the saga of a quiet and determined man who truly listened to the rank and file, and was responsive to what they needed by rearticulating their concerns and turning them into law.

I Respectfully Dissent chronicles Ed's legislative genius in the evolution of temporary disability, unemployment and workers' compensation benefits, and pre-paid health insurance . . . how he saw

and cared about obscure details like unemployment taxes assessed against employers and how these taxes affected the solvency of unemployment insurance fund-things

And perhaps one of the greatest marks of Ed's success is that we now take completely for granted so many of these protections that he put into law, with supportive legislators and the ILWU.

We all assume if we can't work and are not guilty of misconduct that we can apply to unemployment and that it's our right. This wasn't always so. Someone had to write that law and perfect it. Someone had

of unionism, and encouraging them to join

**Hawaii Longshore Negotiations** 

**R-3 Resolution in Support of** 

The Convention strong supports

negotiations. Safety is a big issue for

terminals being seriously congested.

Longshore workers work long hours all

day and into the night, working under

artificial light and required to have

longshore workers with container

Hawaii Longshore Division in its 2014

the ILWU.

a labor union that stands for a sustainable Hawaii and fair working conditions and wages, supporting the Jones Act goes without question.

to worry that there was enough money in

the unemployment insurance trust fund so

that there would be enough funds to take

care of the unemployed when times were

That person was Ed Nakamura.

when times were good.

bad, and that employer's weren't overtaxed

Did you ever wonder what happened

if you were in an industrial accident and

never worked again for the rest of your

life? You probably know you can get a

permanent total disability. Do you know

that there is protection against inflation

benefits? Today, workers in Hawaii who

are permanently totally disabled have a

every ten years that helps them with the

cost of living. Do you know whose idea

it was that there be such an adjustment?

Right: it was Ed Nakamura and he drafted

a provision in 1980 to solve that problem.

What I find most inspiring is not that

Ed was a brilliant jurist and labor lawyer,

benefit adjustment that's paid to them

and the rising cost of living in these

fixed amount of weekly payments for

#### **R-5 Resolution to Reaffirm Support for Pacific Beach Hotel Workers and Their Continuing Struggle for a Union Contract**

Local 142 and its members at Pacific Beach Hotel expresses sincere appreciation to Zenkowan, ITF, JTUC-RENGO, Service Rengo and more than 20 supporting unions in Japan and other international unions and federations for their demonstration of international solidarity. The Convention reaffirms its strong support for the workers of Pacific Beach Hotel and will continue to actively promote the boycott of Pacific Beach Hotel until the workers win justice and a fair union contract.

which he was, that he rose from modest circumstances to Hawaii's highest court, which he did, or even that he spent an entire lifetime devoted to the welfare of the common person. What I find most inspiring is that he found a way to harness his ideas with the ideas of actions and others, ... and so many others of you. Ed was . . . part of a tsunami of change that propelled an entire generation of workers forward, transforming the society around him to one that was more equal in opportunity, where the fruits of labor were shared by many, not hoarded by few.

What is the lesson for us today of Ed's life and Coffman's book?

The ILWU must recapture the moral authority and vision that united both your interest as members with the interest of society as a whole. As you fight at the bargaining table over pork chops, you



to dependence on imported oil, which is costly, environmentally unfriendly, and often unreliable due to it's origin. Hawaii set a clean energy goal that, by 2030, 70% of the state's energy needs would be met through energy efficiency measures (30%) and locally generated renewable resources (40%). The ILWU Local 142 supports the development of a statewide electricity grid through installation and implementation of an interisland electric transmission cable

## Summary of Resolutions Adopted

The 26th Convention adopted twentyfive resolutions which state the policy and programs of ILWU Local 142. Following are summaries of these resolutions.

#### **R-1 Resolution on the 60th Anniversary of Consolidation of ILWU Local 142**

That the 26th Convention of the

that are absolutely vital to the economic security of workers out of jobs, but totally unglamorous.



ILWU attorney Lowell Chun-Hoon speaks at the 26th ILWU Local 142 Convention.

ILWU Local 142 salutes the wisdom and foresight that led to the formation of consolidated ILWU Local 142. It has carried us for the last 60 years in strength, unity and solidarity. The ILWU Local 142 is resolved to take the same visionary approach that consolidated this union as one and modernize the union to carry us into the next 60 years.

#### **R-2 Resolution in Support of** Organizing

The ILWU Local 142 reaffirms its commitment to organizing the unorganized. ILWU rank and file members assist in the organizing effort by identifying organizing targets, talking to potential new members about the benefits

particular skills. The Longshore deserve their compensation and must be protected.

#### **R-4 Resolution in Support of** the Jones Act

Matson, Horizon, and Pasha are all Jones Act vessels owned by United States companies, whom have served Hawaii for over 100 years, regardless of profit. Foreign companies have no ties or loyalty to Hawaii. Their interest to call and service Hawaii is in profit margins. They have the power to delay or stop services altogether based on those profit margins. Allowing foreign companies to service

Hawaii, will allow for noncompliance with United States Federal Environmental and Labor laws, as well. Hawaii could see trash dumping, oil spills, and foreign workers paid well below the minimum wage. As

#### **R-6 Resolution in Support of** Lanai and Its New Beginnings

Support the new ownership of Lanai and the hope of prosperity for the ILWU members on Lanai.

#### **R-7 Resolution in Support of Clean Energy and a Statewide** Grid

Hawaii residents pay the highest rates for electricity in the nation, largely due

system, as well as, the development of renewable energy resources on all islands as an economic driver.

#### **R-8 Resolution in Support of** the Patient Protection and **Affordable Care Act**

The U.S. Supreme Court recently upheld the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which was signed into law by President Obama on March 23, 2010. The Affordable Care Act, as it is often known, is intended to move the nation toward universal health care coverage, significantly reducing the number of uninsured Americans from a current high of 50 million. The ILWU Local 142 urges Hawaii's Congressional delegation to

There should be a Union Springtime, like the Arab Spring in the Middle East, and the Thousand Flowers Movement in Mao's China, where the voices of the many are finally heard and honored.

This will involve events like the protest staged by longshoremen against the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq on May 1, 2008 when they refused to unload cargo at 29 West Coast ports. It will involve quiet

discussions between men and women and the baring of intimate private thoughts, and candid words not only about policies and actions, but also the exploration of personal feelings and emotions about equality between the sexes.

I would like to voice a few suggestions about what the future aspirations of the union should be. There should be a

focus, I think, on domestic violence, human trafficking, and lending a hand to assist those immigrants who remain vulnerable and needy. In my view, this will focus us all on three things: 1) our relationship with one another as men and women, 2) some of the worst abuses and exploitation against labor in our society, and 3) the needs of other marginalized and oppressed groups, whose incorporation can revive the union.

We all have families. Domestic

# the 26th nvention

support its continuation. The convention calls for members to educate themselves about the benefits of the Act.

#### **R-9 Resolution in Support of the United Way and Labor's Community Services Program**

The ILWU has supported the United Way not only because of the breath of services supported by fundraising dollars but because of a unique partnership violence is really about how we treat those who are most intimate with us, and it is more broadly reflected in society. Can we really expect to have peace among nations, if there is no peace in the home? Can we really hope that nations and armies will curb their appetite for war, when we ourselves cannot restrain our impulse for violence and maintain peace in our own homes?

Some figures say that as many as 27 million people have been subjected worldwide to human sex and labor trafficking. How can we as a union and upholder of the rights of working people stand idly by in the face of such

The ILWU must recapture

your interest as members

with the interest of society

as a whole. As you fight at

the bargaining table over

pork chops, you cannot

forget that the beef has

always been over social

inequality.

and economic justice and

the moral authority and

vision that united both

monumental exploitation? Thai workers at Aloun Farms have been sold into debt bondage and were living in Matson cargo containers. What have you and I done to stop that miscarriage of justice?

What about the local girls recruited by pimps from Pearlridge Mall to prostitution? A grandfather from

Hilo testified in 2010 in the legislature that his 15 year old granddaughter was kidnapped from her home in Hilo, so she could be sold into prostitution on the mainland, but fortunately a local grassroots search found the girl before she was shipped across the Pacific. When the story was made public in Hilo, the grandfather got calls from six other families who said they had similar experiences. Only two, just two of those families, however, said they were as lucky as this grandfather to get their daughters back. Four young women, somewhere, had their lives stolen and were consigned to sexual slavery. Finally, you should come to the aid

leaders and rank and file members and

will be lost to future generations. The

**R-11 Resolution to Support** 

their oral history.

**Credit Unions** 

retirees. If not recorded now, these stories

ILWU strongly supports this project and

members and retirees are encouraged to

actively participate when asked to provide

Credit unions utilize profits to promote

our local economic growth here in Hawaii.

how the credit union is run. The flexibility

allows for members to have a voice in

The democratic process of credit unions

of recent immigrants to our shores, to Southeast Asians, Micronesians, Samoans and Tongans. American foreign policy and wars have uprooted many of these peoples, in some cases subjecting them to devastating nuclear radiation, and often deformed their traditional cultures. These newcomers have the same problems as

your parents and my grandparents. Organize them and welcome them to our union. Aid, educate, and accommodate them, and they will repay us, renew our society and our economy, and reinvigorate the promise of America.

I mentioned the union needs to be concerned about building multinational alliances and to be concerned about exploitation around the globe. If you've studied your constitution,

this is old news. Your constitution says in the preamble that this union is devoted "to advance the living standards of our fellow workers everywhere in the world . . . to banish racial and religious prejudice and discrimination, to strengthen democracy everywhere and achieve permanent peace in the world." In Declaration of Principles #11 your Constitution commits "[T]o fight all violations of democracy" and to "reject racial, religious, sex or political discrimination by anyone."

The greatest, untapped resource you have is each other and the common vision of hope and transformation we can build together. Ed Nakamura built that vision of hope through laws and legal decisions, but it was a vision based on his belief in all of you as workers and your collective power in a democratic society.

hotel membership will be going into negotiations in 2013.

The ILWU stands in solidarity with their brothers and sisters in these hotels and encourage those who visit Hawaii to use the ILWU Restaurant Guide to patronize the restaurants our brothers and sisters serve.

#### R-13 Resolution to Support the Viability of Sugar Cane Production in Hawaii

For more than a century, sugarcane was the principal crop grown in Hawaii. The ILWU supports sugarcane production and Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company, the last sugar plantation in Hawaii. The ILWU will urge the Commission on Water Resource Management for a fair allocation of water that will allow HC&S to survive. Members of the ILWU and their families will promote, buy and use sugar produced in Hawaii. We all know that Martin Luther King had a dream and it enriched the United States of America. I say to you, ILWU members that you, too, must have a dream. I hope you will believe that somewhere, maybe in a rundown Section 8 housing complex in Nanakuli, there is a crack-baby who has the potential to grow up to be the

I say to you, ILWU members that you, too, must have a dream. I hope you will believe that somewhere, maybe in a rundown Section 8 housing complex in Nanakuli, there is a crackbaby who has the potential to grow up to be the next Jack Hall . . . And why not? A boy from Makiki who grew up in Indonesia of parents from Kenya and Kansas became president of the United States. next Jack Hall. I hope you believe that there is another child growing up in Ilocos Norte who will emigrate to Hawaii and use Facebook, Twitter, and other social media to create an unbreakable, irresistible electronic alliance of union members, united around the globe who stand for equality, opportunity, peace and justice. And why not? A boy from Makiki who grew up in

Indonesia of parents from Kenya and Kansas became president of the United States.

In the end, what's said at this podium isn't really what's important. What will matter, when we're all long gone, is that you will have carried on a proud, progressive tradition. You took your turn, as Ed Nakamura did, and stood up, spoke out, and insisted on addressing the injustices and inequalities of your time. You knew that nothing should be taken for granted, and that each generation must fight and win this battle anew to realize its dreams-so that the people, not the bosses, rule the country and the planet.

And you will prove, through your actions—as you rise up as one in defense of all humanity—that an injury to one, truly is an injury to all!

macadamia nut, and other agriculture workers and recognizes the great contribution made by these workers to the ILWU and the union movement.

#### **R-15 Resolution on ILWU** Political Action Program

Everyone eligible must be registered to vote. ILWU political action means supporting endorsed candidates, including canvassing, sign-waving, attending fundraisers and helping with campaign literature. Absentee voting is quick, easy and free. Every member and retiree is urged to vote and get others to vote in this

between the United Way and the AFL-CIO. The ILWU Local 142 supports the United Way organizations on all islands for its efforts to raise funds for nonprofit agencies that provide services to the community. ILWU members, staff and full-time officials are encouraged to contribute to the United Way. The ILWU strongly supports the Labor's Community Services Program and its Labor Liaisons.

#### **R-10 Resolution to Support ILWU Oral History**

Through the ILWU Memorial Association and a grant from the Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice, the Union is embarking on recording the oral histories of union of credit unions allows for the union to work with members, despite a troubled financial past or not being able to get credit elsewhere. The ILWU continues efforts at all levels of the union to educate and involve rank and file in supporting ILWU credit unions.

#### R-12 Support ILWU Tourism Workers Negotiating for Fair Contracts

In these next three years, over 7,600 members who work in hotels and golf courses will be negotiating new labor contracts. Fifteen ILWU Local 142 hotels with 2,563 members are negotiating new contracts this year in 2012. Grand Wailea, our largest concentration of

## **R-14 Resolution in Support of Agriculture Workers**

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 142 supports the continuation of sugar, pineapple, coffee, macadamia nut, and other agricultural production in Hawaii and pledges to maintain them as viable industries. ILWU Local 142 salutes sugar, pineapple, coffee, year's important General Election.

#### **R-16 Resolution in Support of the Health and Welfare Trusts**

The Tourism Health and Welfare Trust Fund has proven to be a great benefit for many of our members and for the hotels as well. Our members pay nothing for their medical coverage, as the hotels pay 100 percent of the cost of the medical plans. An equal number of union and management trustees control the Trust Fund so we can customize the medical plan to fit our members' needs.

The Trust Fund has direct control over a claims administrator, HMA, which pays the hospitals, doctors, and medical providers. This helps manage costs and —continued on page 6

# 26th Convention Report—continued from page 5

reduces the expense of middlemen such as HMSA. The Trust Fund allows us to set the cost of medical for several years, so the hotels know exactly how much they must pay. With HMSA, the hotels have no idea how much their medical plans will increase each year. The ILWU Local 142 will continue to educate the members about the Health & Welfare and encourage units to negotiate this Fund into their contracts.

#### **R-17 Resolution of "Aloha"** to Closed Units

The ILWU bids a fond aloha to several units whose companies closed down in the past triennium. These units include: Hawaii Medical Center (Oahu Division) in December 2011; Kamaaina Motors (Hawaii Division) in November 2011; Luana Hills Country Club Oahu Division) in July 2011; Star Ice & Soda Works (Maui Division) in January 2011; Honolulu Advertiser (Oahu Division) in June 2010; Maui Pineapple – Haliimaile (Maui Division) in December 2009; and Kihei Landscaping (Maui Division) in June 2009.

#### **R-18 Resolution on Melvin Chang**

The Convention wishes former ILWU Communications Director. Mel Chang the healthy and happy retirement he deserves after so many years of dedicated service to the ILWU. Forty years ago, learning about our union's history inspired Mel to become an ILWU member. Now he is an important part of our union's proud history and an inspiration to members who are learning about the ILWU.

#### **R-19 Resolution on the Retire**ment of Richard Baker, Jr.

The Convention extends sincere appreciation to Hawaii Division Director, Richard Baker Jr. for his long and dedicated service to the ILWU and good wishes for his retirement.

#### **R-20 Resolution on the Retirement of William** Kennison

Maui Division Director William Kennison, known by all as Willie, is retiring at the end of the year after more than 30 years as a full-time official. He was congratulated on his well-deserved

retirement at the 26th Convention, and the Convention extended sincere appreciation to him for his many years of dedicated service to the ILWU and its members.

#### **R-21 Resolution on the Retirement of Isaac Fiesta, Jr.**

President Fiesta had been an ILWU member since 1968 when he first started working at Pepeekeo Sugar Company, just out of high school. The ILWU Local 142 extends gratitude for his dedicated service and wishes him a long and happy retirement.

#### **R-22 Resolution to Reaffirm the International ILWU Convention Policies**

ILWU Local 142 reaffirms the policies adopted by the 35th Convention of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union as correct and proper for guiding and building our Union through the coming years and pledges support for these policies.

#### **R-24 Resolution Supporting the Use of Online Social Media**

The Convention encourages the Local to explore the possibility of utilizing online social media as another tool to facilitate communication with our members and to further the union's goals in organizing, collective bargaining, and member mobilization.

#### **R-25 Resolution to Honor Mary Ann Abregano**

Mary Ann Abregano is from the Oahu Division of Unit 4405 Foodland Supermarkets. Mary Ann served as a co-chairperson, co-unit editor, won many awards and served as a Local Executive Board member. Mary Ann recently retired with 37 years of service. She was one of the unit's historians, knowing exactly why certain language existed in the contract. She will be greatly missed in the 2013 negotiations.

#### **R-26 Resolution in Support** of Simmons Manufacturing **Company Workers**

The Simmons Manufacturing Company has seen a steady reduction in retail customer sales in Hawaii due to the 2008 recession paired with an onslaught on foreign competition. The Convention





ILWU members Ernesto Ballo from Unit 1403 - Royal Hawaii Orchards LP - Keaau, Melecio Eugenio Jr. from Unit 1402 - Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corp., and Helene Kaiahua-Sado from Unit 2520 - Grand Wailea Resort with Big Island mayor Billy Kenoi.

recognized the struggle the workers face, and pledged to educate members to "buy Union" by signing a petition of support in each Division.

### Constitutional Amendment

The 26th Convention proposed only one amendment to the ILWU Constitution. The amendment changed the limit on the number of observers allowed to view the counting of ballots.

#### **C-1** – Elections - Article XIV Section 14.03.1.3

14.03.1.3 Each candidate shall have the

right to have observers present in the room at the counting of ballots. The observers shall state their name to the Chair of the Division Balloting Committee and state for which candidate they are acting as an observer.

Explanation: The previous language of this article of the ILWU Constitution limited the number of observers to one. This change allows as many observers as necessary to observe the counting of ballots. This is a right provided under the Code of Federal Regulations which applies to union elections.



Guest speaker Akinobu Itoh presents ILWU 142 President Donna Domingo

them how to be involved union members, and told him they would miss him very much. Above, I-r: Francis Martin, Wesley Bissen, Esther Manibog, and Daniel Martinez of Unit 2101 - HC&S. Kennison (right) was touched by so many words of thanks and the wishes for a long and happy retirement.

# **Working class wins with Obama victory**

American voters sent a loud and clear message that they support President Obama's and the Democratic Party's policies and rejected the Republican Party's philosophy and programs.

American voters chose to move forward with Obama's program of affordable health care; of increasing the top tax rates so the super wealthy must pay their fair share of taxes; of promoting sustainable energy and protecting the environment; of preventing the financial abuse of the big banks and Wall Street money machines; of investing in American jobs by repairing our highways, bridges, and mass transportation; of equal rights for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or national origin.

American voters rejected Mitt Romney's and the Republican Party's policies that sought to go backwards. They wanted to turn America back to the past where the super wealthy continue to pay lower

taxes than working people; where banks and financial companies can continue to gamble with our economy and security; where they would cut programs such as Medicare and Medicaid; where immigrants would be discriminated against; where environmental, labor, and health regulations would be eliminated or weakened.

Obama won with a decisive 332 to 206 electoral votes or 62% to 38%. Obama won 51% of the popular vote compared with 48% won by Mitt Romney. Exit polls revealed that Obama won 73% of the Asian vote; 71% of the Hispanic vote; 93% of the Black vote; and 55% of women voters. The only group Mitt Romney won was among white men, where he got 65%

of the vote.

In Hawaii, Obama won by a stunning margin of 70.1% of the vote compared to 27.7% won by Romney. This was the highest margin of any state. Only the District of Columbia gave Obama a higher margin where he received 91.4% of the vote and Romney received only 7.1% of the vote. In Hawaii, Obama won 232 precincts and lost only one precinct, Kahuku-District 47 Precinct 3.

The Democratic victory extended beyond the presidential race. The Democrats gained two Senate seats and eight additional seats in the House of Representatives. The Democrats will have a larger majority in the Senate where they will now have 53 seats plus 2 independents who will caucus with the Democrats. The Republicans will have 45 Senators.

When the new House of Representative members are sworn into office in 2013, the Democrats will have 201 seats. The Republicans will still hold a majority of 234 seats in the House.

#### **Looking Forward**

President Obama will have four more years in office, which will have far reaching impact on working people. Obama may appoint as many as two justices to the US Supreme Court which will swing the Court from a Conservative majority to a more progressive majority. Obama will be able to appoint pro-labor members to the National Labor Relations Board which will uphold the rights of workers to organize into unions. Obama will also be able to appoint the people who will run important government agencies such as the Department of Labor, Environmental Protection Agency, Health and Education, Transportation and others.

#### **Top 5 Hawaii Precincts** won by Obama

District 13-09	Kalaupapa1250%
District 03-07	Ka'u High1058%
District 02-03	Keaukaha700%
District 09-03	Lihikai644%
District 12-03	Hana621%

# Thanks to you—a big victory for union political action

In the Hawaii elections, nearly every ILWU endorsed candidate won their election.

The most significant wins were Mazie Hirono's victory over Linda Lingle for Daniel Akaka's Senate seat; Colleen Hanabusa's defeat of Republican challenger Charles Djou for the House of Representative District 1; and Tulsi Gabbard's win over Kawika Crowley for the House District 2 seat. For the first time Hawaii will have elected a woman to the U.S. Senate and Hawaii's Congressional team will have three women. Hawaii's senior U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye passed away on December 17, and Hawaii Lt. Governor Brian Schatz has been appointed to take his place.

Mazie Hirono beat Linda Lingle by over

108,000 votes. Hirono won 235 out of 249 precincts, while Lingle won only 12 precincts. (They were tied in one precinct.) The Lingle campaign and outside groups such as the US Chamber of Commerce spent millions of dollars on television ads which attacked Hirono and showed Lingle with a puppy and lots of smiling children.

Both Lingle and Charles Djou tried to present themselves as a nice person and an effective leader who will work with both parties, Hawaii voters were not fooled and remembered how Governor Lingle refused to work with Democrats in the Hawaii Legislature and vetoed dozens of bills passed by the Democratic majority. Hawaii voters remembered how Charles Djou voted the Republican Party line for the seven months he served in the U.S. House of Representatives. Djou had won the special election in May 2010 to the

seat vacated by Neil Abercrombie who resigned to run for Governor of Hawaii.

Honolulu voters also reaffirmed their support of the rail system by electing Kirk Caldwell over former Governor Benjamin Cayetano who campaigned on a promise to stop the rail. Anti-rail council member Tom Berg was defeated by Kymberly Pine and Carol Fukunaga was elected to the City and County of Honolulu Council over anti-rail candidate Sam Aiona and others.

The ILWU supported 14 Hawaii Senate candidates and lost only one race where Democrat Kurt Lajala challenged incumbent Republican Sam Slom. (Another 10 senators won their primary elections and were not on the General Election ballot.) The Senate will now have 24 Democrats and one Republican.

The ILWU supported 28 candidates running in the State House of Representatives-17 House members won their primary elections and the union did not endorse candidates in 6 races. Only two of our candidates lost-incumbent Democrat Marilyn Lee lost to Republican Beth Fukumoto in District 36-Mililani and Democrat Jake Bradshaw lost to Republican Lauren Cheape in a close race for the open seat in District 45-Waialua. Going into the elections, Republicans held 8 seats to 43. After the elections, they will hold 7 seats and Democrats will hold 44

seats in the Hawaii Legislature.

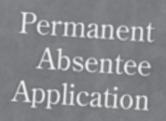
# It's easy to vote absentee

New state election policies make it easier than ever to vote by absentee mail ballots. Once you apply for an absentee ballot, the state will automatically send you a mail ballot for every election. In the past, you had to make a new application for every

Almost half of Hawaii voters took advantage of the convenience of absentee and early voting for the November 6, 2012, General Elections.

Hawaii Island led the way with 50 percent of all votes cast by absentee ballot or by early voting. Kauai was a close second with 49 percent voting by mail or early voting. A little over 46 percent of Oahu voters cast their ballots by mail or by early polling.

The 2012 voter turnout was 61.9%, an increase of 51,056 voters over the 2010 elections, but still lower than the 66 percent turnout in the presidential elections of 2008. Some 200,076 people voted by absentee ballots or 28.4 percent of all votes cast. This is the highest percentage of absentee voting, which has been steadily increasing. It was only 16.3 percent ten years ago in 2002.

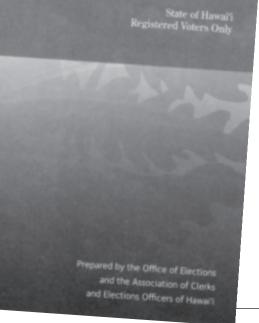


election.

Voting absentee is easy and convenient. You receive your ballot by mail about 3-4 weeks before the Primary or General Election dates. You vote and return your ballot by mail. There is no need to take time out and drive to your polling site, no standing in line, and no waiting to vote.

Maui voters preferred to go to the polling sites on November 6 where 63 percent turned out to vote in person. Only 37 percent of Maui voters cast their vote by absentee mail or by early voting.

Interested in registering to vote or signing up for the permanent absentee ballot? Have questions about the permanent absentee application? Call your Business Agent or the ILWU Division office nearest you: Hawaii Division - 935-3727 • Maui Division 244-9191 Kauai Division - 245-3374 • Oahu Division - 949-4161 • Hawaii Longshore Division - 949-4161



# Membership Services: News You Can Use

# **Injured on the job? File a Claim for Workers' Comp**

You're climbing the stairs at work, miss a step and fall, twisting your ankle. Is that a work injury? You feel a twinge in your back lifting a full box of computer paper. Is that a work injury? You're walking down a hallway at your company and, as you turn a corner, you bump into a co-worker and fall, hitting your head on the floor. Is that a work injury?

The answer is YES to all of these questions. Any time you become injured at work, it is a work injury and you should report it to your employer right away.

This seems like common sense since there is a law that requires workers' compensation coverage for employees injured on the job. Under state law, all employers with one or more employees must purchase workers' compensation insurance (or be selfinsured) to provide wage replacement and medical benefits to employees injured on the job. Also, in exchange for the presumption that an injury is compensable if it occurs in the course of employment, the employee cannot sue the employer for a work injury.

(Note: Waterfront workers are covered under the federal Longshore and Harborworkers Act.)

Many workers do not report work injuries. Why? Because the employee

thinks reporting an injury will affect his/her future with the company. Because the employer tells employees that work injuries are costing the company money and these costs affect the company's bottom line—and their pay raises and benefits. Because the employee thinks the injury is minor and not worth the hassle of reporting it. Because the employee thinks he/she may bear some responsibility for the accident occurring in the first place.

But what happens when the injury leads to something more serious? Take the example of the employee bumping into a co-worker and hurting his head. The employee may think it was his own carelessness that caused the accident, but was it intentional? Or was it an accident? As it occurred at work, the injury should be compensable. While the injury may seem minor at first (maybe a bump on the head or a headache), what if it leads to a more serious brain injury which prevents the employee from working for the rest of his life?

#### **Benefits of Workers' Comp**

If the accident is considered workrelated, the employee is entitled to have all medical treatment for the injury paid for by the employer's workers' compensation insurance carrier. That may include an emergency room visit, ambulance services, doctor's fees, MRI's, hospitalization, and medication. If it was not covered under workers' compensation, the employee could pay several hundred dollars, if not more, in copayments.

If the accident is considered workrelated, the employee would also be entitled to wage replacement benefits, called Temporary Total Disability (TTD) payments, after a three-day waiting period. If the employee cannot return to work for a temporary period, the insurance carrier will pay weekly TTD benefits at 66-2/3% of the employee's average weekly wage (AWW) up to the state's AWW, which is currently \$747. TTD benefits are not taxable. If it was not a compensable injury, the employee would need to take sick leave, maybe vacation, and may end up with no income.

# What should you do when you are injured on the job?

• Report the accident to your employer immediately. Don't wait a day or two to see how you feel.

• Find witnesses and get their names, phone numbers, and what they saw/ heard.

can only do it once. To see a specialist, get a referral from your attending physician for a consultation.

#### You need representation

Although state law requires compensation for injuries sustained in the course of employment, employers and insurance carriers often try to find ways to make the injury not compensable. A frequently used tactic is to declare the claim "denied pending investigation." An outright denial requires a written report to the State Department of Labor within 30 days to support the denial, but there is no specific time limit for an "investigation."

**So what do you do?** Ask for a hearing with the Department of Labor's Disability Compensation Division. An impartial hearings officer will consider arguments from both sides and make a decision. Employers and insurance carriers are often represented by attorneys well-versed in the law and the process. You can represent yourself at the hearing, but it may be best to have someone, like your business agent or an attorney, represent you.

While you are disabled due to a work injury, you may be asked by the insurance carrier to be examined by an "independent" medical doctor, who is supposed to be impartial and unbiased. However, always be mindful that this doctor is hired by the insurance carrier. His report to the carrier may be used to determine compensability, to allow or disallow medical treatment plans, and even to determine the degree of permanent partial impairment. You need to be cooperative, respectful, and honest while being examined. Do not exaggerate symptoms, but do not minimize them either.

## Work injuries are serious business

Being injured on the job can be troublesome. You're injured, you may not be able to work, you're not sure if your bills will be covered or you'll have any income, and you may have a permanent impairment. But the bottom line is: report the injury and get representation.

## **Deadline for Bouslog Labor Scholarship is March 1, 2013**

Since 1989, the Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship has provided hundreds of scholarships for ILWU children to attend the University of Hawaii. This has provided major financial assistance to many ILWU families seeking a college education for their children. Among those benefitting from the generosity of Harriet Bouslog, long-time ILWU attorney, and her husband, Stephen Sawyer, are doctors, lawyers, engineers, nurses, teachers, and many others contributing to the community in Hawaii. The application requires an essay and a videotaped interview of the student's family member who is or was an ILWU member. The oral histories will be kept in the ILWU's archives for information and use by members and researchers.

Deadline for applications has been moved up to March 1st to allow for announcement of awards to be made by April 1st.

Scholarship awards are: \$2,000 for UH-Manoa; \$1,000 for UH-Hilo or UH-West Oahu; and \$750 for a UH community college. Ten new scholarships are awarded each year and may be renewed for up to eight semesters for undergraduate studies, provided the student is in good standing and attending UH on a full-time basis. Scholarship recipients may also be eligible for tuition assistance in graduate studies at the University of Hawaii.

The Bouslog Labor Scholarship has undergone some changes in the past couple of years. For one, the Scholarship is now open to any family member of an ILWU member or retiree, and even Local 142 members themselves, if they will be attending one of the 10 campuses (including community colleges) of the University of Hawaii system. Applicants need not be incoming freshmen.

However, preference will be given to high school seniors who are children or grandchildren of ILWU members or retirees. For more information, contact the Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship Fund at (808) 537-3327 or <u>harrietbouslog@gmail.</u> <u>com</u> or the ILWU at (808) 949-4161 or jkealoha@ilwulocal142.org. See a doctor right away and let him know the accident occurred at work.
File a WC-5 form, even if the employer is required to file an injury report. The WC-5 is your report of a work injury.

• Keep a journal of your notes of all doctor visits, communications with the employer and the insurance carrier, and any hearings. Keep your paperwork for the claim in one place.

• Contact your business agent, who can assist you with workers' compensation claims.

You are entitled to have treatment from a physician of your own choice, but if you want to make a change, you Call your Business Agent or the ILWU Office nearest you today if you have a question about an on-the-job injury.

Hawaii: 935-3727 Maui: 244-9191 Kauai: 245-3374 Oahu: 949-4161 Longshore: 949-4161