



SEIU 517M
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of
SEIU Local 517M

August 2022

Staff Directory

Please contact the appropriate staff person using their phone or email (click their name) below:

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[Clint Bryant](#) - 989.797.4258

Region 2:

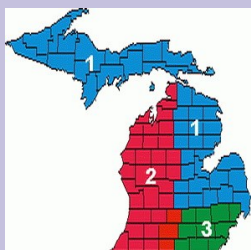
[Christine Stressman](#) - 616.696.2141

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Region 3:

[Dominic Barbato](#) - 313.314.6511

Click on the map to find out which Region your unit is in.



MCSC to Begin Sending Notifications to State Employees

Later this week, the Michigan Civil Service Commission (MCSC) will begin notifying members that their current dues deductions are scheduled to expire on Saturday, October 14, 2022, unless they reauthorize through the [HR-Self Service Portal](#) or call the MI HR Call Center at 877-766-6447.



**Dues Authorization
Ends October 14, 2022**

We understand if you feel like you just did this, but it's our new normal under the current MCSC rules.

If you receive an email from MCSC it is because your last authorization falls outside the 12month window established under the rules.

Thank you for your continued support of SEIU Local 517M during this process. We stand ready to answer any questions you may have and will continue to provide members with the best representation and services available.

Please Note: The HR Self Service Portal is currently closed for payroll processing, but members wishing to reauthorize are encouraged to call the **MI HR Call Center** which is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

2022 SEIU Local 517M Annual Meeting Recap

The 2022 SEIU Local 517M Annual Meeting was held virtually via Zoom on Saturday, July 30th. There were 34 attendees at the meeting.

The meeting started off with a brief welcome from SEIU Local 517M President Joey Combs. From there we heard from SEIU Local 517M Executive Director Jeremy Tripp on the "State of Our Union."

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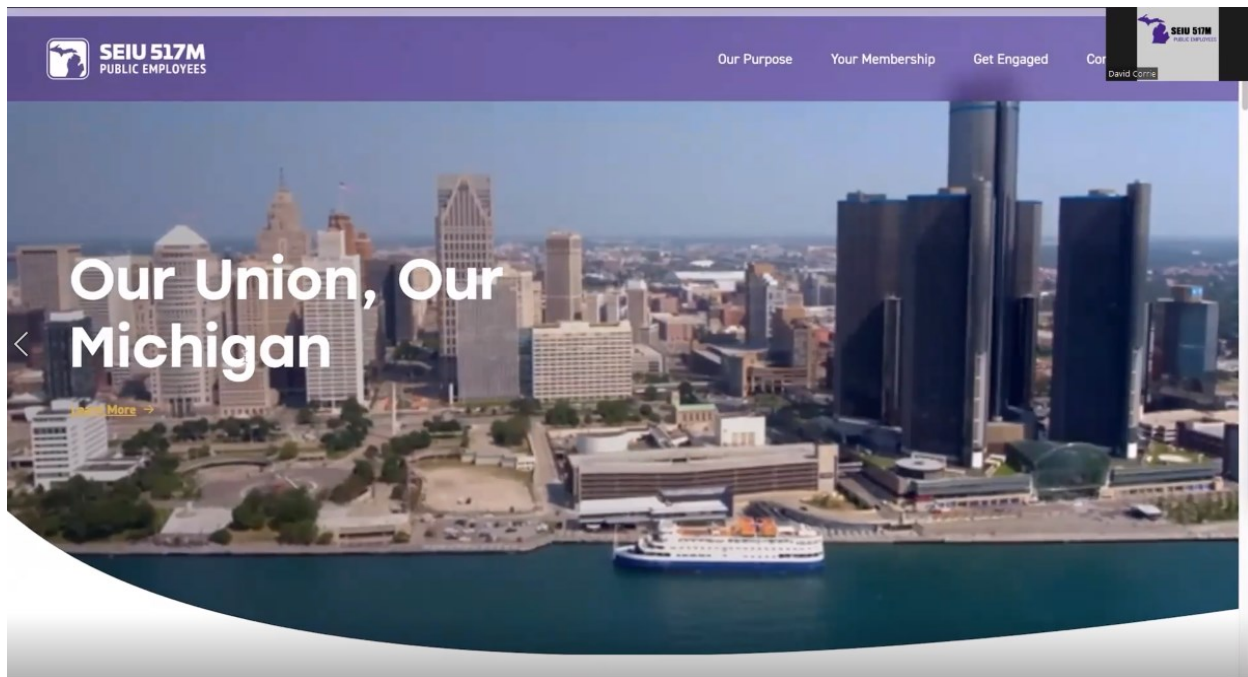
STAND TOGETHER — STAND STRONG

www.seiu517m.org [Facebook at: SEIULocal517M](#)

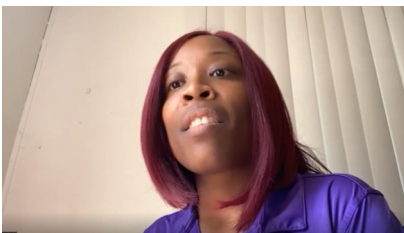
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We had a presentation from Scott Kish of SEIU Member Benefits and Adrian Bonev from EBG Solutions. EBG Solutions is the vendor that supports the SEIU Discount Ticket member only benefit. They discussed how to access the member benefits site and went through some of the offerings of the Discount Ticket Program.

Executive Director Tripp gave a brief description of a new program being offered by the Michigan Attorney General's Office dealing with expungements. This program allows for certain convictions to be expunged from a person's record. The Attorney General's office meets with an individual to see if an expungement is possible and what steps the person needs to take to apply. The Local hopes to work with the Attorney General's Office to schedule several opportunities regionally to take advantage of this amazing program for our members.



We had a video presentation from Tom Leitz of Message Makers, locally based company that has been working on redesigning the SEIU 517M website with a new, more interactive, layout and new content. Tom gave a sneak peak to the attendees of the general design framework of the new site. This new site will be launched later this year.



President Combs gave the Keynote address discussing how "Membership Matters" and about building a strong union. Several members told their individual stories of why they are in the union and why it makes a difference. They shared how their union membership helped to resolve issues and improve their work life/workplace. As we went through the program more members decided to share their story. Hearing about real-world examples of union strength was energizing to the attendees.

Closing remarks were made by SEIU Local 517M Secretary/Treasurer Bryan Grochowski. He put out a request for members to get involved with signing up new members and participating on committees.



“Chat & Chew” Spurs Action from Saginaw Public Schools Unit Members

Submitted by Region 1 Labor Relations Specialist, Clint Bryant

Members at Saginaw Public Schools have been in contract negotiations for over 6 months. Tensions are high with the administration as members are “fighting for families” to secure a fair multi-year contract. Before they return-to-work for the 2022-2023 school year, member-leaders wanted to meet with the rank and file to discuss proposals offered from each side with an informational meeting.



The meeting was well attended by members and their families. Divisional Vice President Leticia Trevino (pictured far right) stopped by to help pass out t-shirts and prepare for the “Chat & Chew”.

“For far too long our members at Saginaw Public Schools have been fighting cutbacks and for respect from their employer. I’m glad they are stepping up”. - Leticia Trevino.

The unit collectively developed a plan of action that includes internal organizing, outreach to news media and school board members, informational pickets and speak out sessions at school board meetings.

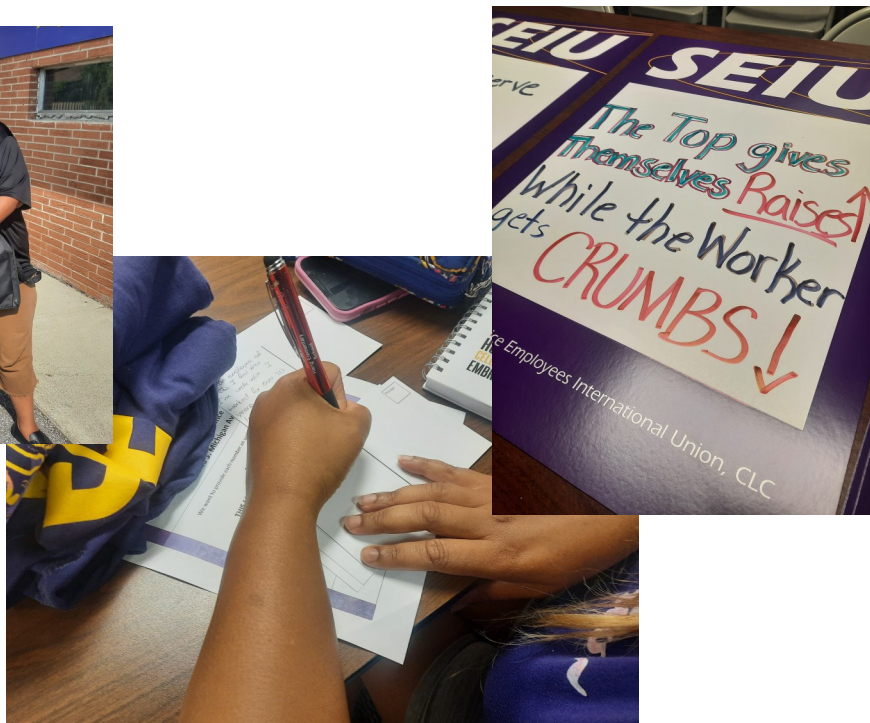
“It felt great to be together again. I have not seen my union brothers and sisters since the pandemic started. I made signs with my kids and partner that read: Underpaid, Undervalued and Under Stress. I hope the board members listen to our concerns so we can win a fair contract”. – Member at SPSD

Still actively in negotiations, the unit has filed two unfair labor practice charges, an arbitration and three – Level 4 grievances.

If you would like to show solidarity with members at Saginaw Public Schools for upcoming actions, please reach out to Labor Relations Specialist Clint Bryant at cbryant@seiu517m.org for more details.



Above: Divisional Vice President Leticia Trevino with SEIU Region 1 Labor Relations Specialist “Chef” Clint Bryant



Nominations Accepted for Technical Unit President



Please be advised that on Monday, October 3, 2022, SEIU Local 517M will hold an election for the office of Technical Bargaining Unit President. Members running for this office must be bargaining unit members in good standing and have a dues authorization that expires after October 14, 2022.

As per the SEIU Local 517M Bylaws; Article VI, Section 5: All candidates shall have been members in good standing of the Union for at least twelve (12) continuous months preceding the election ballot count date. No person who has been convicted of a felony as defined in Section 504 of the Landrum-Griffin Act (or an indictable offense in Canada) shall, in accordance with the provisions of applicable law, be eligible to hold office in this Union.

The nomination period will begin August 1, 2022 and ends September 9, 2022. All ballots, both paper and electronic, will be available starting September 16, 2022. The voting period will be from September 16th through September 30th at 4:00 p.m. The deadline for requesting a paper ballot is September 23, 2022.

Ballots will be counted on Monday, October 3, 2022. The successful candidate will take office on November 1, 2022.

If you are interested in being placed on the ballot for this position, please use the link below and complete the Candidate Petition Form and follow the directions given. Also included below is a link to SEIU Local 517M Board Policy #7 which specifies the election process and the services offered to candidates.

If you have any questions on the elections, please contact Dave Corrie at (517) 267-2090 or corried@seiu517m.org.

[Candidate Petition Form](#)

[SEIU Local 517M Board Policy #7](#)

Maximize Your Union Membership, Sign-up for [SEIU Member Benefits](#) and Start Saving Today!

