



SEIU 517M
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of
SEIU Local 517M

October 2023

Staff Directory

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

Executive Director:

[Jonovan Luckey](#) - 517.267.2065

Information Services/PDF/Member-Only Discount Benefits:

[Dave Corrie](#) - 517.267.2090

Office Manager:

[Ashley Konyha](#) - 517.267.2095

Dues & COPE Deductions:

[Andrea Valerio](#) - 989.797.4241

SOM Labor Relations Questions:

Scientific and Engineering Unit:

[Howard Gordon](#) - 517.267.2070

Human Services Support Unit:

[Janice Cosey](#) - 313.246.1137

Technical Unit:

[Kevin Karpinski](#) - 517.267.2088

School & Local Government

Labor Relations Questions:

Region 1:

[Clint Bryant](#) - 989.797.4258

Region 2:

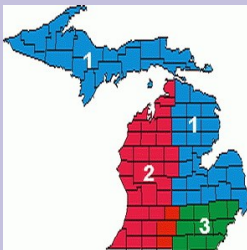
[Christine Stressman](#) - 616.696.2141

[Andy Johnson](#) - 269.978.1994

Region 3:

[Labor Relations](#) - 313.314.6511

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



Annual Meeting is this Saturday, October 7

The 2023 SEIU Local 517M Annual Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. The Annual Meeting will be 90 minutes long.

The agenda includes a presentation on the SEIU Legal Services Program from Hope Effross of SEIUMB and Dana Jubran of U.S Legal Services. There will be a retirement discussion from Nick Ciaramitaro, a former state legislator and current President of the Coalition for Secure Retirement. There will also be a presentation on preemption by Professor Nester Davison of Fordham Law School and Jennifer Epps-Addison J.D. of the Local Solutions Support Center.

All RSVP's need to be submitted by 4:00 pm on October 5, 2023. Login information and agenda will be emailed to registered members on Friday, October 6, 2023. [RSVP Today!](#)

State Employee Reauthorization Extends into Next Week!



If you haven't done so already, it is not too late to reauthorize your union dues deduction without a break in membership. Since the computer portal is down through Wednesday, you can call the HRMN Self-Service Hotline at 877-766-6447.

The hotline is open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. State employees can use their employee identification number or social security number and be connected with a live Michigan HR specialist. Once on the phone, tell the representative you wish to Authorize Union Dues Deductions and that reauthorization will activate on Thursday when the system is back online.

After Wednesday, you can access the HRMN Portal again using your computer by using this link: [Reauthorize Now!](#)

Members who allow their membership to expire will lose all the benefits of membership on October 13, 2023. This includes the **ability to vote on any newly negotiated wage increase** and the great member-only benefits you receive as a SEIU Local 517M member such as discount tickets for entertainment, plans for insurance, loans, legal services, travel and more!

STAND TOGETHER — STAND STRONG

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

New Technical Unit Vice President



The nomination period for electing the Technical Bargaining Unit President closed on September 8, 2023. Current Technical Unit Secretary/Treasurer Jason Jackson submitted his name to run for this position.

Since Jason ran unopposed for this office, he was declared the winner by acclamation without the need to hold an election in accordance with Article 10, Section 3.C of the SEIU Local 517M Constitution and Bylaws. His new three-year term of office will begin on November 1, 2023 and will expire on October 31, 2026.

Jason has been a Transportation Technician for over 9 years and has served in many different leadership positions including Steward, Chapter President, and Unit Secretary/Treasurer. He also serves on the Unit Negotiating Committee, the Local's COPE Committee, and the Local 517M Executive Board.

Congratulations!

Trunk or Treat Event in Kalamazoo School Unit



Custodians at Kalamazoo Schools will be holding a Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from Noon until 4:00 pm. The location is Flesher Field Park (3664 S. 9th Street, Kalamazoo). The event is open to all SEIU 517M members and is for children 11 years old and younger.

The event is organized as a membership drive to sign up 24 recently added bargaining unit employees to the Kalamazoo Schools Unit. They were previously with an outside contractor and the school district has brought them back into SEIU represented positions at various Kalamazoo Public School buildings.

It is a celebration of the hard work and effort made by SEIU Kalamazoo Custodians over the years to reclaim these jobs that were taken from the unit due to outsourcing.

Activities will include a pizza lunch, and other activities in conjunction with the Trunk or Treat. There will also be a unit meeting where new unit officers will be sworn in.

Signup sheets will be available in all Kalamazoo School buildings for participation in this event. If you don't work for Kalamazoo Schools and wish to participate and/or distribute candy or have any questions, contact Andy Johnson at ajohnson@seiu517m.org or Olivia Jelinek at memberstrength@seiu517m.org.