



PTI DRIVER NEWS

UE PTI Drivers Union News Local 1077

December 2020

What is all the talk of a Union at PTI in Northern California and Nevada?

In March 2020, the Union Pacific awarded the contract to PTI. Drivers on one day before worked for Hallcon, where they had a Union. Drivers were and still are a part of UE Local 1077. Many drivers were denied being hired by PTI because they were a part of the Union. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has sided with UE on this when they filed a complaint against PTI in the Summer of 2020.

UE drivers at PTI decided that since PTI wouldn't voluntarily recognize their Union, they would hold a democratic election and try to build a union. In May and June of 2020, drivers participated in a mail ballot election that was run by the NLRB. Drivers won the Union, but nasty PTI decided to delay and needlessly fight. They opted to have the top labor board in Washington DC review the election, and we believe, only to stall the inevitable—that PTI drivers want a voice on the job.

So as of December 15, 2020, all of us are waiting to see what the review process with the labor board will actually do.



Drivers and leaders are not waiting, we are building a fight for our rights now. We are not waiting for the Labor Board to tell us what we already know that we won the election, that PTI discriminated against drivers for the Union membership and that PTI illegally failed to recognize the Union and maintain conditions for employees when they took over for Hallcon. We all together need to hold them accountable.

Fight for your Rights, get paid before PTI recognizes UE Union

Many drivers in California have noticed that PTI is not following the California Labor Law for meal periods, rest breaks and overtime. Get paid, by filing a claim today at one on the links below. The California Department of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE) will investigate and if they find PTI in violation, force them to pay you what you are owed.

PTI is also not paying the 80 hours of paid sick leave for drivers affected by COVID-19. If you have contracted the virus at work and need help getting the paid sick leave, please call Fernando at (323) 572-4668. You can file a claim for each violation. For example, you would file a claim for one missed wage claim for meal period violations, and another for overtime violations, etc. Once you fill-out the wage claim form, make sure you keep a copy. DLSE is at:

California <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/HowToFileWageClaim.htm>

Nevada http://labor.nv.gov/About/Forms/FORMS_FOR_EMPLOYEES/

Driver won job back in Bakersfield PTI

In November, a PTI driver from the Bakersfield Yard and Union supporter Chris Jenkins was set up and unjustly terminated by his Regional Manager Ronnie Cruz. The Union was ready to file a demand to bargain with PTI to try to get Chris back, we also saw the opportunity to mobilize PTI drivers from Bakersfield to support Chris.

PTI co-worker Tim Cunningham, a strong Union supporter, and UE staff, helped formulate a plan to present factual information to Cruz's boss, the PTI General Manager, in Chris's defense. The Regional Manager falsely accused Chris of not wanting to take a random drug test. It turns out not to be accurate, which Chris followed protocol. It was the General Manager Ronnie Cruz that intentionally did not follow his drug testing policy and tried to set up Chris for termination.

Tim and Chris did an excellent job gathering all the facts and evidence that showed Chris never refused to take a random drug test. This is an example of what PTI drivers can accomplish as a Union. Once we get the Union contract, there will be more job security protections for PTI drivers like a just cause provision against any unjust discipline by PTI Management. Congrats on the Bakersfield Union drivers on winning Chris back his job.

Working together to fight for our rights will always be more powerful than anything Steve Kessler or Ron Romaine can throw our way. Remind your manager today, that you are Union and you want recognition from the boss.

Contact Bargaining Committee: Don White (916) 320-9917 Ed Stephenson (775) 742-2242