



UAW LOCAL 2209
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INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA



March 25, 2020

BARGAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

Shop Chairman – Rich LeTourneau

Zone Committeeman 1st Shift – TBT Shop Committeeman – Dave Poor
Zone Committeeman 2nd Shift – Steve Turner. Shop Committeeman – TBT
Zone Committeeman 3rd Shift – Tony Cantasano Shop Committeeman – Chris Phillips

- **THE REALITY OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE OF INDIANA VS ORGANIZED LABOR.**

For decades organized labor has battled with state of Indiana over unemployment benefits for our members. They continue to make it more and more difficult to apply and 2209's ongoing battle with them is nothing new. We have always put out instructions sheets and made computers, with assistance available for our membership. The law continues to change tremendously and not in our favor. On Thursday March 19th the Judicator for the state of Indiana had conversation with our benefits department. She informed them that if the local 2209 leadership continues to coach and walk our people through unemployment benefits that we could put our membership in jeopardy of forfeiting unemployment and sub benefits. On Monday morning I had conversation with several UAW International reps over this issue. By Monday evening your state representative JD Ford was contacted on this issue. They later reached out to me and assured me that we were in a crisis and could push a few boundaries. However, under no circumstances can we file for any of our members, but can assist and release question and answers. There was no way in hell that I was going forward with our continued practice without clearance from our state representative. Regardless of what other plants do or have done, your bargaining committee or I would put your benefits in jeopardy. Your Bargaining Committee has always interfaced with the benefits department and collectively crafted a plan that benefits you. Therefore, Jessica Lund will be in the benefit office at FWA M-F, 8:00AM-4:30PM at 260-673-2596, Manning 260-740-9716, Jay 260-437-7437, Tom 608-290-9368, Retus 765-210-7772 However, we must follow all guidelines that are in effect due to the COVID-19 virus. No more than 10 people can gather at a time. Please feel free to contact them if you have questions they are eager to help and will be anticipating your calls.

Please also realize because we cannot "File A Weekly Voucher" for unemployment until Sunday March 29th and no later than Saturday April 4th, you must receive your verification of the State Waiting Week, or receipt of your payment to be eligible to file for your SUB. On or after March 30th, and you have received your payment or waiting week confirmation, you may file for SUB. Every week that follows you will repeat these steps until you return to work.

- **NEW RETURN TO WORK DATE 4/14/2020**

The State of Indiana and most surrounding states require your employer to give you a return to work date. Previously, General Motors reported that March 30, 2020 would be your return to work date. As of today, March 25th, General Motors has confirmed the new return to work date is April 14, 2020. If you have already opened your unemployment claim you don't have to change the return date for this week, next week you will use April 14th. General Motors should be confirming this and sending it VIA ANS alerts soon.

- **INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES**

For those temporary employees and **in progression** less than one year who are currently eligible for health care coverage, your coverage will extend through the end of April. We hope this information will help you plan for you and your family in the coming weeks.

- **30- DAY NATIONAL AGREEMENT TEMP LANGUAGE TO BE EXTENDED**

Per the National Agreement, if you are off for more than 30 days as a temporary employee, you are required to start your temp date over. However, as a result of the COVID-19 virus concerns, it has been agreed to extend the date you currently have, you will not have to start over if we are laid off for more than 30 days. Your comments to this should be ok good, nothing more, nothing less, less is better on this subject.

- **RETURNING FROM SICK LEAVE**

If you are returning from sick leave there is a drop box with instruction at the labor relations window. Follow the instructions and drop off your paperwork it will be processed accordingly.

Rich LeTourneau

Shop Chairman

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