

WHAT'S GOING ON IN REGIONS 1-4

CITY OF DETROIT

Kevyn Orr, Detroit's Emergency Manager, filed a petition in Federal Court to file a Chapter 9 Bankruptcy, on July 18, 2013. This action directly affected AFSCME members' grievances and all legal action that had been filed against the City of Detroit.

Judge Rhodes (Bankruptcy Judge) ruled that all grievances and legal action (i.e., MERC Filings, Law Suits, etc.) that occurred PRE-PETITION (7/18/13 - date Bankruptcy Petition was filed) would be "stayed." Council 25 vigorously fought to have over 600 grievances heard and resolved. As a result, the Judge ordered that mediation of these outstanding grievances occur immediately and we are currently mediating grievances, for all City of Detroit Locals except DDOT, that occurred between July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2012.

The Judge further ruled, that grievances which occurred POST-PETITION, would go thru the normal grievance procedure. Labor Relations for the City of Detroit, has confirmed that Pre-Arbitration Hearings will resume immediately.

DETROIT WATER & SEWERAGE DEPARTMENT (DWSD)

The grievance procedure in the DWSD for POST-PETITION grievances has never ceased and will continue.

Grievances that occurred between July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008, were mediated in 2009-2010. Numerous members were awarded settlements that have not been paid. The DWSD was given another copy of those settlements on November 1, 2013, for them to process payments. If you have any questions related to this article, please contact Catherine Phillips or DeAngelo Malcolm, Staff Representatives, at 313-964-1711 for additional details and information.

AFSCME VOTER REGISTRATION INITIATIVE

Our goal is to ensure that all of our member's voices are heard in the 2014 elections. We are updating our voter registration files and registering members and their families who have not yet done so. Our union and its supporters will play a crucial role in making the 2014 election a success for working families. Your local union will be contacting you soon in an all-out effort to make sure that all of our voices are heard.

WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS DISTRICT NEW MEMBERS JOIN AFSCME COUNCIL 25

Unit dissatisfied with MEA Representation, the members contacted AFSCME Council 25 Organizing Department. AFSCME began a representation drive in April 2013.

A Representation Petition was filed on July 19, 2013 (A corrected Petition was re-filed on July 30, 2013). A joint teleconference call was scheduled on August 13, 2013, with AFSCME, MEA, MERC and the Employer, to work out the final election issues and to determine which job classification would be eligible to vote in the election.

A Mail Ballot was set up for September 19, 2013 - Ballots were counted on October 4, 2013. Ballot Results: MEA - 10, Neither - 30, AFSCME - 26, Spoiled - 5.

RUN-OFF Election of the highest vote totals was scheduled for October 4, 2013. The final vote count was held on October 8, 2013. The final election vote was: AFSCME - 50, No Union - 20, **RESULTING IN 138 NEW AFSCME MEMBERS JOINING OUR FAMILY, CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU.**

Reno Thompson, Organizer, Roy Gonzales, Organizer