

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

January 4, 2019

Aloha Sisters and Brothers,

The sudden passing of Brother Terence Tamura last month was truly a shock to all of our members. Throughout his 30 years with Hawaiian Telcom, Terence worked many different positions and helped on all of the different islands when needed and his positive attitude was always present and was infectious to everyone he worked with. He will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to his friends and family, and also to our sisters and brothers that worked alongside Terence each and every day.

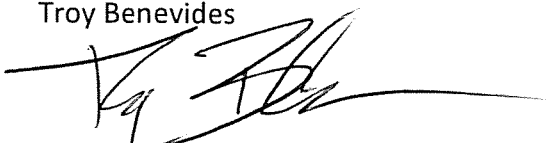
Our CBA with IT&E expires in May, and despite me reaching out to IT&E leadership many months ago to come to an early agreement, the company refuses to engage the IBEW. Over the past few months, I have reached out numerous times via email to remind them and IT&E leadership continues to avoid any attempt to come to the table and reach an agreement. I ask all of our sisters and brothers in Saipan to continue showing your solidarity in preparation for this upcoming contract negotiations. Only by standing together as one will we show IT&E that our members are what makes their company successful and we are the ones that will continue to provide the best possible communication and service to the people of the CNMI.

Cincinnati Bell has been making a lot of changes to processes over the past 6 months, many of which have been sudden and not completely thought through. Some examples are the new payroll system and the changes in the workers compensation procedures. Our office has been working on getting answers to the questions that our members have over the past few weeks, however with majority of Hawaiian Telcom's management team on "use it or lose it" vacation, it has taken longer than it normally would to get answers. I do anticipate more changes to come throughout 2019 as the transition with the two companies continues and I hope that they do the right thing and involve the IBEW in their decision making process.

There is still time to volunteer for the Labor of Love project at Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School in Hilo on February 2nd. The Labor Community Services Committee looks to continue the success it had at Waianae Elementary last year and share it with the community in Hilo. Please call our office to get on the sign-up sheet for the awesome community service project put on by the labor community.

In Solidarity,

Troy Benevides



Business Manager/Financial Secretary