

Brian Friedman

As a candidate for the At-Large position, I am fully committed to fulfilling the responsibilities that come with this role, which include:

- Safety Oversight
- Expansion of Our Work
- Professional Standards
- Elimination of Self-Dealing
- Grievance Administration
- System Outsourcing/Field Trip Tracking

If elected, one of my primary objectives will be to collaborate effectively with the five Regional Vice Presidents to analyze and enhance the application of our contract. I will focus on critical areas such as safety, shift bidding, vacation scheduling, and change of shift (Swap) policies within their respective regions. By identifying and sharing the most effective practices across all work groups, I will empower the Regional Vice Presidents to make informed decisions that significantly improve our members' working conditions.

The expansion and advancement of our work are crucial for the future success of our Local. With my six years of experience as the Central Region Vice President, I have consistently and vigorously challenged management's abuse and overreach, securing impactful victories on behalf of our members. I have a proven track record of handling grievances, labor arbitrations, and whistleblower complaints while engaging directly with company leadership. I will continue this vigorous advocacy on your behalf. The time for merely maintaining the status quo is over. Under the right leadership from our Executive Board, we will eliminate self-dealing and restore integrity to our representation. Our members deserve leaders who prioritize the collective good over personal interests, and together, with a well-organized Local 591 Executive Board, we will become a formidable force. We will lead our class and craft to the highest echelons of the industry regarding economics, scope, safety, and work rules. Our contracts will set the standard for excellence in our field. We are destined to win.

Safety is the cornerstone of our union's mission. With 16 years of experience as a Safety Representative, I bring a deep passion for ensuring workplace safety. I have championed major initiatives, including advocating for fall protection, chemical testing, and the implementation of safe work standards. If elected, I will work closely with the Local 591 Safety Team and regional representatives to guarantee that our members have access to state-of-the-art safety equipment, training, and support. Our unequivocal priority will be to ensure that every member returns home in good health to care for their families, free from any pressure to compromise safety. Our union will staunchly defend our members' rights to a safe working environment.

My strong background in grievance administration and arbitration, acquired through my tenure with Locals 563 and 591, has equipped me with the skills necessary to advance our members' rights. If elected, I will partner with regional representatives to ensure Local 591 pursues only the most robust grievances, founded on thorough investigation, a strong understanding of historical context, and arbitration precedents. Presenting compelling grievance arguments is essential for advancing our members' agenda and fortifying the enforcement of their rights under the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

To effectively track system outsourcing/field trips, I will prioritize building strong relationships with members and representatives. This approach will allow us to gather valuable insights from the members and ensure that the Executive Board takes decisive action. Trust is vital; our members must know they can confidently share information and depend on the Executive Board to safeguard our work in all areas.

As a married father of three school-age children, I truly understand the importance of work-life balance. Our schedules and family time are paramount for all of us. If elected, I will maintain open lines of communication with our membership, visiting and contacting stations to listen to your concerns and adapt to your evolving needs. I am dedicated to staying in tune with what matters most to our members.

Thank you for your consideration and support. Together, we will forge a stronger future for Local 591.