



# *On The Move*

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[www.twulocal234.net](http://www.twulocal234.net)

## **Supreme Court Supports Union Busting Plan**

Members of Local 234 enjoy high wages, excellent benefits, especially health benefits, and a very good pension plan. This is all the result of a long history in which Local 234 members stood up, united, and fought for justice on the job. Sometimes it took strikes and other collective actions, but in the end, by sticking together we made our union job one of the best in the country.

On June 27, 2018, five anti-union justices on the U.S. Supreme Court overruled a forty-year old precedent with the intent to castrate and silence public sector unions by preventing them from collecting *agency fees* from individuals who, unlike our members, refused to join the union. We don't have that problem right now. So the *Janus* decision will not have an immediate impact, *so long as we remain a solid union workforce.*

The Court's 5-4 decision in *Janus v. AFSCME* is the culmination of a well-financed campaign to strip public sector unions of the resources needed to negotiate contracts and defend the interests of their members. Under *Janus*, public unions will be forced to represent people who refuse to pay their dues. Without the necessary financial resources, some locals will be forced to close down or provide only a minimal level of representation. Local 234 is in a better position, because our entire workforce is in the Union. Still, forces hostile to labor, including anti-union politicians and their wealthy backers, plan to target union members, including our members, with a barrage of anti-union propaganda to con them into dropping out.

## **We Have to Stand Up to Union Busting**

The anti-worker crowd hopes *Janus* becomes a cancer on public unions that *destroys them from within*. They are planning a campaign to convince union members to join the *anti-union cause*, hoping to divide and weaken us. Anyone considering such a move must think hard about the consequences. The Court has given union members a loaded gun, *pressed against their heads*. If they pull the trigger for a few bucks, the outcome will not be a good one. Over time, Local 234 members have proven to be too smart and experienced to fall for anti-union crap. Our members know the deal. No staff, no representation. No experts to help negotiate better pension benefits. No experts to help maintain and improve our health benefits. No lawyers to handle arbitrations or write contract language during negotiations---but without experts we are at a great disadvantage.

The fight against union busting begins in November, with the mid-term elections. We must elect a democratic Congress that will stand up for working people. And if democrats can take back the Senate, we may be able to block the appointment of another anti-union Supreme Court justice.

## **We Must and We Will**