

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



For Local 8 Members at Northwest Justice Project

November 5, 2021

Teleworking Discussions

NJP Management has indicated an interest in discussing staff flexibility for working in a remote/hybrid setting once offices reopen with an eye toward:

- How has remote work been going?
- What may be possible/realistic once offices are open to the public?
- What values and guidance will be important in a new telecommuting policy?

NJP has asked us to help identify and form two small groups (of 5-8 employees each) of union represented **legal assistants** and **advocates** from the field offices. The commitment would be to attend 1-2 "listening sessions" with Hickory Gateless (Deputy Director), Sue Encherman (Director of Administration), and Dave Forrester (Director of IT) that would last approximately 1.5-2 hours each.

The hope is to get a diverse (re: tenure at NJP, size of office, geographic location, and overall background/perspective) group of volunteers to participate.

Please [visit this link to volunteer](#) ASAP but no later than 11/15/21

COVID-19 Info (time sensitive)

If you previously used accrued vacation or sick leave to receive the COVID-19 vaccine (up to one day per dose) or due to experiencing negative symptoms after receiving a

COVID-19 vaccine (up to 3 consecutive work shifts), please reach out to Payroll **today (Friday, November 5th)** to request that time be credited back to your bank.

The full [COVID-19 Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) is linked here](#) for your review.

Contract Negotiations

Bargaining is underway -- we now have two sessions under our belt! A more comprehensive bargaining update to follow on Monday the 8th.

The Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project (FIRRP)

FIRRP is joining OPEIU in Arizona!

Follow them on social media

here: <https://twitter.com/firrpunion> and <https://instagram.com/firrpunion>

FIRRP also has letter campaign, you can sign onto as peers in the legal nonprofit industry: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/recognize-proyecto-solidaridad-firrp?source=direct> link

Union Stewards:

1. **Catherine Houser:** Attorney, Wenatchee
2. **Elizabeth Flavin:** Attorney, Seattle
3. **Tanya German:** Legal Assistant, Aberdeen
4. **Meredith Grigg:** Attorney, Seattle
5. **JoAnn Ortiz:** Legal Assistant, Everett
6. **Evan Purcell:** Legal Assistant, Tacoma
7. **Tim Murphy:** Attorney, Vancouver
8. **Jason Quackenbush:** Attorney, Kent
9. **M. Abbas Rizvi:** Attorney, Seattle
10. **Sherrill Strassburg:** Legal Assistant, Longview
11. **Matt Woods:** Attorney, Seattle

Union Bargaining Team:

1. **Tanya German:** Legal Assistant, Aberdeen
2. **Caroline Guess:** Screener, Seattle
3. **Brendan Haigh:** Paralegal, Tacoma
4. **Beth Helm:** Attorney, Seattle
5. **Catherine Houser:** Attorney, Wenatchee
6. **Brandi Li:** WA LawHelp Coordinator, Seattle
7. **David Loeser:** Legal Assistant, Spokane
8. **Margaret MacRae:** Attorney, Spokane
9. **Therese Norton:** Attorney, Bellingham
10. **Amy NoOneElse:** Attorney, CLEAR
11. **M. Abbas Rizvi:** Attorney, Seattle

Alternates:

Elizabeth Flavin: Attorney, Seattle
Evan Purcell: Legal Assistant, Tacoma
Kristina Ralls: Attorney, Spokane

Questions? Contact Valarie Peaphon, Union Representative, 206-441-8880 ext. 103 or Valarie@opeiu8.org

