

Union Update

OPEIU
Local 

for OPEIU Local 8 members at Northwest Justice Project

Contract Signed

The 2021-2024 Union Contract has been signed! Access it here: <https://www.opeiu8.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/NJP-OPEIU8-CBA-2022-2024-FINAL.pdf>

For future reference it will also always be available on our website at www.opeiu8.org.

Recent Survey/Poll Results Below (we went over these during our monthly membership meeting but also wanted to share via this email update):

1. NJP has indicated that absent increased funding from OCLA and/or LSC, they will need to reduce the (approximately) 60 basic funded field office attorney positions by (approximately) 20. In order to minimize angst and disruption, NJP would like to be able to reassign or transfer the employees in the impacted positions to other openings (e.g., EPU, FPU, etc.). This approach removes the ability for those slated for layoff to receive severance pay, to have displacement rights based on seniority, to be eligible for unemployment, to have recall rights, and really to have agency over their own decision. Do you support going around the layoff provision to allow NJP to reassign/transfer employees to open positions instead?

(101 responses)

- Yes: 26%
- No: 74%

Update: We will be discussing this again today at the Labor/Management meeting.

2. Absent an approved religious or medical accommodation, NJP is currently requiring employees to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, including a booster. For both the initial vaccine and the booster, NJP will provide up to one paid day for obtaining the shot and up to three paid days to recover from any negative effects. Do you support NJP requiring the booster?

(101 responses)

- Yes: 81%
- No 19%

3. NJP has requested OPEIU LOCAL 8 donate to their 2022 fundraising effort: Jubilee Together for Justice. In the past, we donated \$1,000 at the "stakeholder" level which includes listing our name during the week of giving, listing our name on the NJP website, including our name on the slideshow, and two social media posts. Do you want OPEIU to donate to NJP this year?

(101 responses)

- Yes: 76%
No: 24%

4. What are your thoughts on the Union's monthly home internet stipend

proposal?

(76 responses)

- It's very important to me to receive funds for internet – NJP should provide them to offset teleworking costs and I won't choose to work remotely without them: 0%
- It's important to me to receive this – it just makes sense and would help out a lot: 21%
- It would be nice, but I'll be okay without it and still choose to telework: 65%
- It's not important to me. I don't want NJP to expend funds in this area: 14%

5. What are your thoughts on the Union's one-time home office set-up reimbursement proposal?

(76 responses)

- It's very important to me to receive funds for home office set-up – NJP should provide them to offset teleworking costs and I won't choose to work remotely without them: 1%
- It's important to me to receive this – it just makes sense and would help out a lot: 22%
- It would be nice but I'll be okay without it and still choose to telework: 50%
- It's not important to me. I don't want NJP to expend funds in this area: 27%

6. Would you support us negotiating limiting parameters (i.e., it could be prorated based on how much an employee teleworks, it could only be offered to employees earning less than \$X/year, etc.)?

(76 responses)

- Yes: 84%
- No: 16%

Update: We reached a tentative agreement on a teleworking policy last Thursday but still need to work through corresponding documents (i.e., Equipment policy and Letter of Understanding).

Questions? Contact Valarie Peaphon, Union Representative, valarie@opeiu8.org

Visit our website



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