**CWA District 3 Occupational Safety and Health Conference Call**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**

**Participant Reports:**

Local 3871 reports they have not been receiving notifications of positive COVID-19 cases from AT&T Mobility or Centurylink. Local 3176 reports they have not been receiving notifications of positive COVID-19 cases from Centurylink. Local 3603 reports they have not received any notifications of positive COVID-19 cases from BellSouth Utility Operations.

\*The District distributed the CWA COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and Pandemic Response ([CWA's COVID-19 (Coronavirus) & Pandemic Response.docx](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CBodell.CWA-UNION%5CDesktop%5CCWA%27s%20COVID-19%20%28Coronavirus%29%20%26%20Pandemic%20Response.docx)) to all Locals, Staff and State Offices several times between March and June of 2020. The response included language for Locals and Staff to use when requesting information or updates from all represented employers in District 3 and the District wasn’t aware that some employers were not complying with those requests. Centurylink Staff were advised to contact their Labor Relations counterparts to have the information provided to them and their Locals. After checking with AT&T Mobility, they have a notification process in place. If Locals are not receiving the notices, and they are certain there have been positive cases they should reach out to their Staff Representative for assistance. A question was asked about CWA conducting contact tracing and the answer was the CWA Coronavirus Infectious Disease Incident Tracking Form (<https://forms.gle/NCff1pqC6adwTLZUA>) that is to be completed by the individual, the Local or the Staff Representative was created for that purpose.\*

Local 3808 reports they had 13 members test positive in one location, 333 Commerce Street in Nashville and one member died from COVID-19.

Local 3608 reports there have been discrepancies concerning contact tracing and pay for quarantine and isolation. In one incident a non-member said they were not in close contact with other employees when questioned by management but they actually were in close contact. \*The Local later reported they were able to work out the pay and quarantine issues.\*

Local 3411 reports there were 10 employees exposed to a positive COVID employee while working on a cable failure. All employees were initially denied paid quarantine time but the Local was able to convince the Company they were wrong and all exposed employees were paid.

Local 3611 asked what levels of cleaning are recommended when there is a positive COVID-19 exposure in the workplace. \*The CDC guidance regarding COVID-19 issues has changed regularly. Initially there were 3 levels of cleaning recommended depending upon the circumstances, but there are primarily only 2 levels of cleaning now. Level 1 – Cleaning surfaces with soap and water. Level 2 – Disinfecting surfaces with an approved disinfectant. \*

Local 3102 asked if CWA has a position if employers require their employees to be vaccinated for COVID-19. \*The CWA legal department is looking into this issue and waiting for official CDC guidance to be published. All CWA Local Presidents will be notified of our determination when and if the issue arises.\*

Local 3102 reports that WiFi mapping and standard installs have been re-implemented. \*The Company’s last correspondence to CWA concerning this matter states they will not change the temporary policy regarding WiFi mapping, AB jacks or standard homerun wiring without notification to District 3. We have not been notified that temporary policy has changed.\*

Local 3102 asked if AT&T has a policy that ensures customers take COVID-19 related precautions. \*The Customer Contact Strategy addresses this issue with 4 questions.\*

Local 3808 asked why AT&T Southeast has a 275 pound safe load limit weight when the equipment is rated at 350+ pounds. \*This issue is on the continuous bargaining agenda and continues to be discussed.\*

Scott Bumgarner, President of Local 3608 recognized Paul Jones for his long, distinguished career as a CWA Representative. Paul has made many contributions to CWA as a member of past bargaining committees and as a Local President and we wish him well.

The next District 3 Occupational Safety and Health conference call will be Wednesday, March 10 from 1:00 PM Eastern to 3:00 PM Eastern.