



## CWA NATIONAL JUNETEENTH WEBINAR RECAP

### **From Chains to Change: The Legacy of Juneteenth and the Power of the CWA Minority Caucus**

In honor of Juneteenth, the CWA Human Rights Department hosted a powerful and deeply reflective webinar entitled **“From Chains to Change: The Legacy of Juneteenth and the Power of the CWA Minority Caucus.”** The event marked not only a celebration of freedom but also a call to action, uplifting the struggles and triumphs of Black workers and affirming the vital role of the **CWA Minority Caucus** in our collective fight for justice, equity, and dignity on the job.

Moderated with passion and purpose, the panel brought together past, present, and future leaders of the union who have championed the rights of CWA’s Black, Brown, and marginalized membership.

#### **Featured Speakers Included:**

- **Walter D. Andrews, President Emeritus of the CWA Minority Caucus**, shared a historical lens on the formation of the Caucus, its foundational goals, and how grassroots leadership gave rise to national advocacy across the union.
- **Maurice Washington, Current President of the CWA Minority Caucus**, spoke about the critical role the Caucus plays today in fighting systemic racism in the workplace and beyond. He emphasized the power of unity and political education in this pivotal moment of resistance.
- **Ed Barlow, District 3 Minority Caucus Representative**, reflected on the importance of regional organizing, amplifying the voices of marginalized workers, and advancing civil and workers’ rights in states where both are often under attack.

- **Tay Akins, CWA Next Gen Activist**, represented the bridge to the future, highlighting how younger generations are reclaiming Juneteenth as a day of not only remembrance but transformation, activism, and strategy.
- **Booker Lester, Retired District 3 Campaign Lead**, brought invaluable insight into past campaigns and reminded attendees that the long road to equity requires stamina, vision, and organized power.
- **Angie Wells, CWA National Human Rights Director**, grounded the conversation in present-day urgency, connecting the dots between Juneteenth, labor justice, and the ongoing dismantling of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility across the country. She urged members to keep pressing forward in the fight for fair workplaces and human dignity.

Juneteenth is not just a commemoration of past freedoms; it is a **mandate for continued resistance and movement-building**. The **CWA Minority Caucus is a living legacy** born out of struggle, nurtured by solidarity, and powered by generations of courageous members who dared to speak truth to power.

From union halls to statehouses, from shop floors to social movements, **Black workers have always been at the forefront of shaping a more just America** and must remain central to the strategy for what's next.

Attendees left the event with a renewed sense of purpose and a clear call: **to join the Minority Caucus, uplift marginalized voices, and push the labor movement toward a more inclusive and liberatory future.**

**Thank you to all the organizers, panelists, and viewers who made this Juneteenth celebration unforgettable.**

Let us continue turning chains into change and history into action.

*To get involved with the CWA Minority Caucus or learn more, reach out to your District Representative or visit their webpage: [CWA Minority Caucus](#).*

**#Juneteenth2025 #FromChainsToChange #CWAMinorityCaucus #UnionStrong  
#BlackLaborMatters**