

Bargaining Alert 3 -- May 4, 2007

Court Proposal: huge cuts in benefits

At the May 3 bargaining session SFOCRA presented new proposals that included: guaranteed base wage increase; increases in Realtime premiums; steps recognizing time as a CSR and for longevity with the Court; improvement in health care costs for family coverage; fine tuning of the policy on keeping dailies in house; timely payment of raises; increased participation for Reporters in decisions for facility changes and in procurement of ergonomic improvements for furniture, workstations and sound systems; acting assignment pay.

The Court responded to the proposals we made at the last session. They flatly rejected our no strike and arbitration language. They are not ready to respond to agency shop. They are looking into providing the Livetech support we asked for but didn't want language in the contract. They do not want to make commitments on training for the MOU. For job sharing, the Court said Reporters now can ask for reduced work weeks. (We did not agree to this but we do encourage our members who are interested in job sharing to try this option right now and see how it works.)

The most significant Court proposal involves major takeaways of our current annual award of vacation and sick leave.

The Court also wants to permanently delay future raises from July to December without retroactive pay.

It's time for Court Reporters need to stand together. Join us for a complete report at the next membership meeting and to discuss future action. The Court is not having financial trouble – there is no reason to give these things up!

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Wednesday, May 16
5:15 pm at 400 McAllister
Room to be announced