

Bargaining Update

May 24, 2007

Our SFOCRA team (Joe Vickstein, Debbie Neville, Maura Baldocchi) met with the Court team (Cheryl Martin, Neil Taniguchi, Linda Harris) on May 17.

The Court gave us their perspective on finances: they will have no money to offer for raises other than what is provided by the SAL which they expect to be under 3%; they prefer raises dependent on SAL rather than guaranteed amounts. We held to our proposals for a guaranteed base increase, steps, and an increase in the Realtime premiums.

We reported to the Court the outcome of the May 16 membership meeting: the Court Reporters unanimously gave a resounding no to the proposed takeaway of our annual award of vacation and sick leave and the permanent delay of raises from July to December without retroactive pay.

The Court agreed we met the standard for Agency Shop in the existing MOU and agreed to implement it. That removes the issue as a bargaining matter. Besides finally resolving this longstanding issue, the discussion resulted in another positive outcome: the Court will now annually update the Pro Tem list to remove names of Reporters no longer interested and able to work.

The Court agreed to language on improving the grievance procedure and we are close to agreement on information that will be provided to the SFOCRA to make it easier for us to communicate with members. We are still working on proposals for ergonomics, input on facility change design, arbitration, timely payment of wage increases, job sharing, tech support, dailies, premium pay for performing extra duties, and the economic issues.

We remain committed to our deadline of June 27 to complete negotiations.

Please mark the remaining membership meeting dates on your calendar:

Wednesday June 6 at 5:15 PM, 400 McAllister - Room 509

Wednesday June 20 at 5:15 PM, 400 McAllister - Room 509

Wednesday June 27 at 5:15 PM, 400 McAllister - Room 509