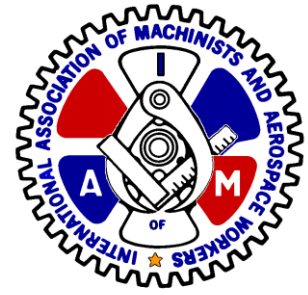




Patricia La Sala RN, MS  
1st Vice President NFFE/IAM, FD #1  
President, NFFE/IAM Local #1 FD #1  
Rm.32, Bldg. #2  
Phone: 415-221-4810 Ext.2329  
National Federation of Federal Employees  
San Francisco VA Medical Center  
4150 Clement Street  
San Francisco, California 94121



*May 21, 2007*

*To: NFFE/IAMAW LL. # 1, San Francisco  
NFFE/IAMAW LL F.D. # 1, Washington DC  
NFFE/IAMAW VA BOD F.D. # 1*

*From: Patricia La Sala RN, MS  
National Vice President NFFE/IAMAW F.D. # 1  
President NFFE/IAMAW LL # 1*

*Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

*This report will cover the Legislative Conference that was held in Washington DC from May 10<sup>th</sup> until May 13<sup>th</sup>. I will also address the Executive Board Meeting Chaired by President Dougan and an Organizing Steering Committee Chaired by Cassie Kerner.*

*The meeting was opened by General Vice President and Permanent Chair, Richard Michalski. Mr. Michalski stated that there were less members attending this year due to all the cuts in the American workforce. He gave an overview of IAMAW's position given all the changes in Federal Law. President Buffenbarger Keynote Address was optimistic and encouraging as per the future of Unions and the possibility of growth under the present administration.*

*AFL-CIO President Richard L. Trumka echoed the same. He encouraged us grow while we have a Labor friendly Congress. This message is one that we receive from F.D. #1, and one many of us see the wisdom in. We realize that we are as powerful as our membership. President Trumka encouraged us the work at the Local level, to encourage the Locals to grow, get involved, and grow some more. This message was not lost on the writer or her Local. This direction, Local growth, is how the Labor Movement will grow and survive!*

- Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> opened with Representative Elijah Cummings of Maryland's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. His focus was supporting and passing the Employee Free Choice Act. Congressman Cummings also supports reforms in education.*
- Timothy Keating, Senior Vice President, Public Policy of Boeing Company spoke of the plans to have the new aerial refueling tankers, A330 be made 100%*

- in the United States. At present only 5% in made in the States and the rest in France. We should all be standing up about this issue.*
- *Senator Amy Klobuchar, Minnesota, is another staunch supporter of the Employee Free Choice Act. If you have not yet gone to IAMAW's legislative website, this is a perfect time to do it. It is a painless process to write to your Legislative representatives and ask for support.*
  - *Representative Al Green, a great speaker, took on Arizona and his support of comprehensive immigration reform.*
  - *Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa is as usual a powerhouse. He covered the Financial Reform Bill, the Employee Free Choice Act, Education Reform, Health Care Reform, the Direct Loan Program for Students, and the approved bill that covers food safety.*
  - *Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, District of Columbia. The FD # 1 office is in her district. Transportation is a big issue for her as DC is the Hub for Amtrak. Also, she restricting Jet Blue flying into DCA. Of course because Jet Blue is strongly non-Union. Delegate Holmes is actively engaged in the merger of United and Continental as part of, "No jobs lost." She also aids Presidents Obama's, "Insourcing," agenda, and bolstering the private federal workforce agenda.*
  - *Gregory Dahlberg, Senior Vice President Washington Operations Lockheed Martin Corporation showed an amazing video of the F35. It is a vertical launch and land aircraft. I was speechless, and we know how often that happens! He also said that the average age of the US air fleet is 22 years! They are also developing a crew rescue vehicle. I encourage you to go to their web-site in case I am not technically correct. There is a first time for everything I guess.*
  - *Representative Donna Edwards Maryland's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. IAMAW's headquarters is in her district. She is the Vice Chair of the Science and Technology Committee, the Job Creation Committee and she supports space flight staying with NASA and not the private sector. She says she is very pro Union.*
  - *Representative Chris Van Hollen of Maryland's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District spoke about eliminating incentives to ship jobs overseas, he stands for rebuilding America, the bond program, "Local jobs for America now."*
  - *Representative Joe Courtney, Connecticut 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, no excise tax on health care and a push back until 2018 on any tax on health benefits.*
  - *Tom Trotter, Labor and Congressional Liaison, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, spoke about that organization.*

*The afternoon was dedicated to lobbying.*

*Tuesday evening F.D. # 1 held a reception at Bobby Van's. Organizing awards were given out to five Locals. President Dougan also received a Good Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America. Please go to the NFFE website to see these wonderful photos.*

- *Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 started with Representative Ed Pastor of Arizona's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. He supports immigration reform. He spoke about his background coming from a steelworker family.*
- *Representative Bennie Thompson from Mississippi's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District addressed protecting our manufacturing base and his work on extending cobra benefits.*
- *Representative Laura Richardson, California's 37<sup>th</sup> Congressional District presented.*
- *Representative Mike Michaud. Maine's 2nd Congressional District penned the Fair Trade Act.*
- *Representative Bobby Scott. Virginia's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District. He focused on health care, a fair trade policy, Wall Street reform and the, "Get out the Vote."*
- *Representative Alan Grayson, Florida's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District was very moving in his praise of the Labor Movement. He feels that a strong Labor force equates to good government. He gave examples of how Labor historically asks for things for others! He got a standing ovation.*
- *Representative Steve Rothman, New Jersey's 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District was pro veterans and veteran issues. He is also co-sponsor of the EFC, Fair Trade Act.*
- *Representative Betty Sutton, Ohio's 13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District has been a Union Labor Lawyer. She is up for re-election and she says that we cannot have a, "jobless recovery."*
- *Bill Press, Nationally Syndicated Radio Talk Show Host, Best Commentator of the Year by the Associated Press, Author. He is vocal about exposing the lies about Labor. He is pro working men and women.*

*The afternoon was dedicated to lobbying.*

*IAMAW sponsored a Congressional Reception at the Hyatt that evening. Many congressional staff members joined us and posed for photos with Local constituents. These photos are also on the website.*

*Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 had on one speaker and that was Representative Ben Lujan of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District of New Mexico.*

- *Wednesday afternoon was spent reviewing our organizing activities. Director Cassie Kerner gave us an update of organizing activities throughout F.D. #1. It was very disappointing for me to see that a small percentage of Locals submitted their tier status. Several members of the steering committee accepted the responsibility to notify Councils or independent Locals of their responsibility vis-à-vis submitting this information to Ms. Kerner. I have contacted all presidents in VA Locals.*

- *The Steering Committee also decided to have Organizing Kits as well as New Member Kits. We decided on what would go in the organizing kits to encourage joining. Those of you who haven't focused on organizing may wish to contact Cassie for a supply of both. The Steering Committee applauded Cassie in getting this activity off the ground. I can't emphasize enough the importance of growth and what it brings to the membership.*
- *Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup> President Dougan chaired the Executive Board Meeting. It was filled with exciting information and great news on potential for growth. The Financial Report was encouraging, and Randy Erwin's Legislative Report as well as Cory Bythrow' Web Report were outstanding. Rather than paraphrasing the last two reports, I encourage you to access our NFFE.ORG website. It is all there. Please contact F.D. # 1 for specific information once the minutes are presented and accepted.*

*NFFE Local # 1 and myself wish to thank President Dougan, his staff and F.D. # 1's Executive Board for their tireless support and their willingness to make us want to do better. Thank you for selecting us as the recipient of a supported trip to Legislative Week. Vice President Kym Valadez walked socks off and she will add to this report with those results.*

*I wish to personally thank the men and women of Local # 1 for always being there for me while they give exquisite care to the American Veteran. They make me want to come to work every day. I remain humbled by what they do.*

*In Solidarity,*

*Patricia La Sala RN, MS*

