



# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

JAMES P. HOFFA  
General President

25 Louisiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001



KEN HALL  
General Secretary-Treasurer

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## MEMORANDUM

To: All U.S. Affiliates

From: Ken Hall, General Secretary-Treasurer

Re: Changes to the IBT Constitution - Increasing Strike Benefits

Date: July 12, 2016

At the 29<sup>th</sup> International Convention, the delegates voted to amend Article XII, Sections 14(a) and 15(e) of the Constitution which raised strike benefits, increased minimum benefits and allowed for benefits to begin earlier than in the past. **The changes became effective July 1, 2016.**

Under the new Constitutional provisions, Teamster members will receive benefits that are based on five (5) times their dues rate upon which per capita tax is calculated. This is a 25% increase from four (4) times the dues rate that was previously paid.

The minimum out-of-work benefit will rise to \$150, which is an increase from \$100. This also applies to newly organized members who have voted for the Teamsters and designated the Union as their bargaining agent, but do not yet have a contract.

The third amendment allows for benefits to be paid earlier than in the past. Previously, benefits were not paid until the 11<sup>th</sup> day. Now, benefits will be paid at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> day and benefits will be pro-rated for weeks when members are out of work for the first three days of a given week after that. As before, if members are out for four (4) days in a given week, they will be paid for the entire week. For example, if a strike begins on September 1 and is settled on September 10<sup>th</sup>, pro-rated benefits will be paid for September 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. If the strike lasts five (5) weeks, but is settled on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> week, benefits will be paid on a pro-rated basis for the three days of the last week.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the General Secretary-Treasurer.



# TEAMSTERS NEWS

International Brotherhood of Teamsters  
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## **TEAMSTERS INCREASE STRIKE BENEFITS**

*Increase Follows Unanimous Vote by Delegates to the 29<sup>th</sup> International Convention*

(Washington) – International Brotherhood of Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa and General Secretary-Treasurer Ken Hall today announced that strike benefit increases approved by delegates to the 29<sup>th</sup> International Convention became effective on July 1, 2016. Under the new constitutional provisions, which were unanimously approved by delegates on June 30, 2016, the changes raise strike benefits, increase minimum benefits and allow for benefits to begin earlier than in the past.

"Our strike fund has more than doubled in the last five years," Hoffa said. "We want to ensure that our members are getting the benefits that they deserve when forced out on strike."

Teamster members will receive benefits that are based on five times their hourly dues rate, a 25 percent increase from four times the dues rate. The minimum out of work benefits will rise to \$150 per week, an increase from \$100. And, benefits will be paid at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> day, previously paid at the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> day.

"We have built our strike fund to more than \$153 million," Hall said. "We have the resources to take on any employer, anywhere, at any time."

The improvements, with the exception of the hourly increase, also apply to newly organized members who have voted for the Teamsters and designated the Union as their bargaining agent, but do not yet have a contract.

Founded in 1903, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters represents 1.4 million hardworking men and women throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Visit [www.teamster.org](http://www.teamster.org) for more information. Follow us on Twitter @Teamsters and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/teamsters](http://www.facebook.com/teamsters).

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