

WHO NEEDS THE DAMN TEAMSTERS

Hi, Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Mike LaSpina and I am president of Local 406-c PPPWU in Nassau County. I worked at Newsday on Long Island N.Y. since 1973 and retired in 2019. I became president of the local in 2010, after having worked under other presidents including George Tedeschi.

Never in all my time have we had or asked for help from the Teamsters at any of our many contract negotiations for six bargaining units over the years. And I am proud to say we have some of the best, if not the best, contracts in the newspaper industry. As a matter of fact, at the last PPPWU Eastern Conference in Atlantic City in April, I stood up and asked all 30 delegates: "WHO has ever had help from the Teamster with contract negotiations." NOT ONE PERSON said they did.

One member of my local filed a complaint with the IBT about our last presidential election in 2022. The IBT sent it down to GCC President Kurt Freeman because we were not straight-line Teamsters. This tells me that we are supposed to handle in-house matters and that they don't want any part of GCC, which is now PPPWU.

I have good friends who are presidents of Teamster locals. But it's the terrible leadership that forced us to leave. After the last conference, I am confident that the PPPWU is in GOOD hands and that we don't need the Teamsters.

I will leave you with this.

What have they done for YOU lately?????

Thanks for your support -- and let's stand strong together.

Mike LaSpina
President
Local406-C PPPWU