

*ATU Local 1181*

JANUARY 14, 2017

# Hello drivers,

## Abig thank you!

With your help driver enrollment is rising to new levels, thank you for coming together.

Signing up is super important and it is imperative that the work is continued to reach out to other drivers in order for us to have the law changed in New York State so we all the drivers can get the right to organize freely under the law and be protected by the law to have and chose a Union of our choice.

What if all of us 18,000 drivers strong can and actively reach out to 3-4 other fellow drivers in less than a week we can have the 70,000 petitions filed and needed for an uncontested Union so we can get to work to achieve better working conditions for all drivers in NYC. Reach out and ask your fellow drivers tell them to ill the petition here Get your fellow drivers to fill the petition pass this link along do it now! <http://atu1181.org/registration-page/> Post it on your social medianetworks.

## A Real Union Versus "Guilds or associations? What is the difference?

With this being said it is important to differentiate a Real Union versus an association or a Guild. A union is a type of association, though with one major difference: **members of a union have the legal right to engage in collective bargaining with an employer, and the employer is legally obligated to bargain in good faith with the union. The Union serves to promote the workers and protect the worker's rights.** On the other hand, a Guild or an association can not legally obllgate the employer to negotiate or even bring them to the table for negotiation. In other words the employer, in this case the stronger party, holds all the keys and decisions.

**In the case of "Associations" or "Guilds" their founding principles are to serve and promote their industry itself; therefore, while an Association or Guild can offer some minor negotiations for labor costs and wages dressed as good relations, it does this from an industry supporting role and NOT for the benefit of it's members/the workers, but rather the benefit of the industry.**

**While a Union can offer expert witnesses for trial, advocate in the political arena, shape legislation for the workers and union members; it does so only in support of the workers. In the context of collective bargaining, these distinctions are important and makes all the difference so let's not allow ourselves to be fooled by associations or guilds sponsored by**

## **the ones who oppress us and exploit us.**

Let's take the story of David versus Goliath with just his slingshot and valor, David transcended history by defeating a much bigger and more powerful opponent. The rest of us could use a little help when facing "the man." This is why a real Union is important! Negotiation is always about power. The ones with power can dictate terms to the weaker parties at the table. When a group of weaker powered individuals join as a united front with a shared common goal, there is a greater power to negotiate with an opposing party. The playing field can become more level with regard to power, allowing for a more advantageous outcome.

Collective bargaining is when a group of less powerful individuals sharing similar goals, unite in negotiations with a common, more powerful opponent. It is imperative that we all contribute in the effort to reach out to others. What matters to you in combination with what matters to another driver, united under one cause together, is where greater things can be achieved. To foremost change the current state of things, get a better life, better economics, and bring back the respect and dignity we all deserve. To have a voice and representation in our work environment by a REAL UNION, NOT an "ASSOCIATION OR GUILD." We deserve better, don't settle for less!

Looking forward to seeing us united and gearing up to get this done in this year 2017. With your help together is all possible.

This is an all TLC driver reach out effort under the help and guidance of **Amalgamated Transit Union - Local 1181**. Please visit their website here. <http://www.atu1181.org/>

Register here: <http://atu1181.org/registration-page/>.

## **"United We Will Never be Defeated"**