

IUE-CWA GE AEROSPACE WORKERS UNITED

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Local 201 Lynn, MA
Local 301 Niskayuna, NY
Local 701 Madisonville, KY
Local 775 Dayton, OH
Local 1004 Strother Field, KS

NEWSLETTER

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GE AEROSPACE UNIONS PREPARE FOR 2025 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS



and other specific issues. Local 775 (Dayton, OH), representing workers at GE Aerospace (Power) Systems in Vandalia, operates under a standalone contract.

The seminar featured strong participation from all locals. Day one began with IUE-CWA President Carl Kennebrew's welcome and GE Conference Chairman Jerry Carney emphasizing the importance of unity and mobilization, citing recent nationwide strikes. Training sessions covered mobilization strategies and methods for starting difficult but necessary conversations. On day two, participants reviewed these strategies, discussed the rollout of bargaining surveys, and set clear goals and deadlines for survey participation. The seminar concluded with the unanimous election of Nick Velasquez from Lynn, MA, as National Mobilization Coordinator. ✍

 Our national contract with GE Aerospace expires in June 2025, and preparations are well under way. This September, IUE-CWA representatives from GE Aerospace locals attended an intensive, two-day contract campaign training seminar at IUE-CWA headquarters in Dayton, Ohio. Campaign chairs and bargaining committee members from each site united to participate in a condensed, high-impact program focused on communication, mobilization, and collective bargaining strategies.

Locals 201 (Lynn, MA), 301 (Niskayuna, NY), 701 (Madisonville, KY), and 1004 (Strother Field, KS) negotiate wages, benefits, cost-of-living adjustments, and other key provisions collectively under a Master National Contract, while maintaining separate local agreements for pay structures

BARGAINING SURVEY STATUS UPDATE



TAKE THE SURVEY

Survey participation has been excellent so far. If you haven't submitted yours yet, there's still time to ensure your voice is heard. Once all surveys are collected, the information will be processed, and results will be shared in early 2025.



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Name: Marcus Vickman

Title: Campaign Chair

Local: 1004 | **Years Of Service:** 5

Why are you a Campaign Chair?

"To put it simply, I want to make a difference. I was a part of Layoffs and recalled in September of 2023. I don't wish that hardship on anyone. I felt that now was the time to step up and use my stubbornness for good. It

is time to get organized and get everyone fighting together. I also hope as a younger member to inspire others that it's never too early to get involved and fight for what we deserve! This opportunity will be a great first step into the world of the union and may even open doors for more opportunities to make an even larger impact for the membership." ✍

STRIKE READY CHECKLIST: IT PAYS TO BE PREPARED

With contract negotiations for GE Aerospace approaching, IUE-CWA members and their families can take practical steps now to prepare for a possible strike. While a strike is always a last resort, being prepared ensures we're ready to stand together if necessary. Strikes have a long history of securing higher wages and better conditions. But they impose a cost on members as well. By planning ahead, each one of us can be better equipped to handle potential challenges if a strike occurs, and win.

Financial Preparedness

- Start now by reviewing strike benefits
- Begin setting aside savings each month to supplement them. Between December and May, can you save up an extra mortgage or rental payment? Can you save up an extra car payment on top of that? Can you save up cash to cover a few weeks of groceries?
- Avoid large new expenses, like car purchases or home projects, until after contract expiration (contract expires June 25, 2025).

Budgeting and Credit Management

- Create a strike-time budget that incorporates union assistance,

savings, and identify any other income sources your family has access to.

- Review monthly expenses and reduce non-essential costs where possible.
- Avoid taking on new debt.
- For those with creditors, proactive communication is key; inform them of the situation and explore alternative payment options. This goodwill effort may be helpful in the long run. That initiative shows good faith and can affect the creditors or landlords' attitude and decisions later. Most of all don't hide by ignoring mailings or messages. Always respond immediately.

CWA Strike Benefits

The CWA Member Relief Fund (MRF) provides \$300 a week starting on the 15th day of a strike, increasing to \$400 on the 29th day. To qualify, members must complete required picket duty as specified by each local. Additional information is available in the CWA Strike Manual: bit.ly/CWAStrikeManual

Union Plus

Members who hold a Union Plus Credit Card for at least three months

may qualify for a \$500 hardship grant after 14 consecutive strike days. Mortgage deferral is also available for Union Plus mortgage holders with at least one year on their loan. Application processing for a new card can take 6-8 weeks. More details can be found here:

bit.ly/UnionPlusStrikeBenefits

Medical Coverage During a Strike

- Under CWA, the Union will provide coverage for necessary medical and hospital expenses, if the company stops coverage.
- In extreme cases, where a worker or his or her family members have an ongoing need for care, CWA will pay the healthcare premiums, or COBRA, to continue the employer's current health-care coverage.
- For the majority of workers, the union self-insures and will pay bills directly if someone has an accident, heart attack or other emergency that requires immediate medical care.
- Routine medical care should be postponed until after the strike.
- Strikers who can obtain health care coverage through other sources, such as a spouse's health plan, should rely on those sources during a strike. ✎

IUE-CWA STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH TEXTRON AVIATION STRIKE



5,000 Textron Aviation Machinists of IAM Local 774 in Wichita, Kansas went on strike in September. IUE

Local 1004 (GE Strother Field, Kansas) delivered a pallet of water and joined the picket line for several hours in solidarity. As the strike extended into a second week, Local 1004 members returned to stand alongside day-shift and second-shift picketers and walked the strike line.

On October 23, 2024, Textron workers ratified a 5-year contract. They won a 35% pay raise with an immediate 11% pay bump. Other gains include: an improved Cost of Living Adjustment, better longevity pay, a 9% 401K match, \$3K lump sums each year which can be placed into the 401K, some cost caps to some health

plans, expanded free services at Textron's clinic and pharmacy, and a guarantee to keep their plants open for the duration of the contract. It pays to stand together for justice. ✎

BUILD WORKER POWER AT GE AEROSPACE



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