

## UFCW Local 555's Anderson named to International Foundation board

Jeff Anderson, secretary-treasurer of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555, has been named to the board of directors of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans (IFEBP). The IFEBP is a 33,000-member association that provides research, information and education to trustees of multi- and single-employer health and pension plans throughout the United States and Canada.



Jeff Anderson

Members include trustees and administrators from multi-employer/Taft-Hartley trust funds; benefits, compensation and HR directors from the private sector; public employee plan managers, administrators and trustees; and service providers, including attorneys, actuaries, accountants and other consultants who work

with benefit and compensation plans.

Anderson is one of 44 volunteer voting directors, including the elected officers and two past presidents. The board, which hasn't had a labor trustee from the Pacific Northwest in many years, is responsible for the direction and control of all affairs of the Foundation. Timothy Gauthier, executive manager of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Oregon-Columbia, also sits on the board, representing management trustees.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to not only get insight into the range of benefit plan options, but to help effect change and make a real difference on a national level," Anderson said.

## Workers say no to union at Boeing South Carolina

Machinists rejected by 3-1 margin in voting held Feb. 15

Boeing workers in North Charleston, South Carolina, rejected the Machinists union by 74 percent — an almost three-to-one margin. The tally in the Feb. 15 union vote was 731 for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), and 2,097 against. Turnout was high, with 2,828 ballots cast out of 3,000 eligible.

"What occurred at Boeing South Carolina was not a lost election; it was a process rigged against the people who do the work," said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka in a written statement reacting to the Boeing vote. "Boeing opened this plant in South Carolina to try and take advantage of workers without a union, to drive down wages and treat thousands of its employees like second-class workers."

IAM represents over 35,000 Boeing employees at 24 U.S. locations, including the Puget Sound region of Washington and Portland, Oregon. Boeing's South Carolina workers earn \$23 per hour on average, about a third lower than the \$31 per hour wage that comparable union-represented Boeing workers earn in Washington.

The South Carolina operation

was formerly owned by Vought Aircraft, a Boeing supplier. In 2007, workers there voted to join IAM, and ratified a first contract in November 2008. But in July 2009, Boeing bought Vought and terminated the union contract. Workers voted to decertify the union two months later.

That's when Boeing decided to expand in South Carolina and build its 787 Dreamliner final assembly plant there.

In 2011, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) determined that its decision was made at least in part to punish its unionized Puget Sound work force for striking — which would be a violation of federal labor law. But the IAM dropped its NLRB case against Boeing as part of a contract settlement later that year.

In 2015, the IAM campaigned to get the South Carolina workers to join, but withdrew five days before a scheduled union election after concluding that it lacked majority support at that time.

Campaigning this year in South Carolina, the IAM once again faced a vigorous anti-union campaign by Boeing, as well as opposition from local politicians and business groups.



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