

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

JAMES P. HOFFA
General President

25 Louisiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001



KEN HALL
General Secretary-Treasurer

202.624.6800
www.teamster.org

February 21, 2019

Dear Teamster Leader,

As you know, the 2020 campaign is already underway and presidential hopefuls are traveling the country trying to build support. Candidates have begun reaching out to Teamster local unions and Joint Councils, so it is critical that we speak with one voice about our political priorities and have a consistent message about what it will take to earn our endorsement. The endorsement for President of the United States is the one endorsement that is made by the General Executive Board, so it is important that we coordinate our activities nationwide to give our eventual endorsement -- should one be made -- the maximum impact.

Though we do not anticipate that the Teamsters will be making an early endorsement in this race, we do want to make sure that all of the candidates hear about our top issues and have a chance to make their case to Teamster members and leadership. We also want to make sure that candidates know that by contacting one Teamster local union, they are engaging with the entire union. The Department of Political and Legislative Action is in the process of gathering information about the candidates, and we want to make sure they realize that their relationship with Teamster affiliates in their home area will be communicated with locals throughout the country. If you are contacted by an announced or likely presidential candidate, please contact Christy Bailey at (202) 624-6928 or cbailey@teamster.org.

Any candidate who wants to be considered for an endorsement by the Teamsters Union will be asked to meet a few requirements. First, all candidates will be asked to sign a pledge indicating their support for core Teamster issues. Second, all candidates will be asked to sit down for an on-camera interview to make their case for why they deserve Teamster support. Third, all candidates will be asked to grant card-check and neutrality if their campaign staff decides to form a union. Finally, all candidates will be asked to take a concrete action to support the core work of the union such as supporting an organizing drive or walking a strike line.

The field of candidates vying to be their party's nominee for president could be historically large. To make sure that we endorse the candidate who is most deserving of our support in a way that is most beneficial to Teamster members, we need to stay in constant communication and make it clear to the candidates that we are speaking to them with one voice. As the endorsement process moves forward, we will seek input from Teamster leaders across the country to ensure that the candidate that earns our support best represents our political priorities. Working together, we can help select a nominee who will grow and strengthen our great union and unify our nation.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Hoffa".

James P. Hoffa
General President