A Union of Professionals
Staff Guild
Local 1521A

SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION

# Communications Committee Newsletter

Labor Day 2026

## 2026 Labor Day Parade

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and marched with AFT 1521A at this year's Labor Day Parade. Our team served 400 snow cones over the course of the day, and members had the chance to speak with elected officials, including Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and County Supervisor Hilda Solis.

Events like this give the public a closer look at who classified professionals are and the work we do to keep our colleges running. They also remind us what we can accomplish when members show up together.

Our thanks go to the committee members, volunteers, and parade participants listed below. If we missed anyone, please let us know so we can recognize you.




**Our Parade Participants**



**With L.A. Mayor Karen Bass**



**With L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis**




**Serving Up Snow Cones**

## Thank You to Our Volunteers and Participants

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Andrea Edwards, ex-officio
Jennifer Jackson, ex-officio
Aleta Campbell
Leslie Cruz

**VOLUNTEERS**

Mark Bergquist
Ben Horowitz (retiree)
Mike Romo (retiree)
Rochelle Romo
Cecily Lewis (SEIU Staff)

**PARADE PARTICIPANTS**

Sergio Becerra
Cindy Cardenas
Robert “Sonny” Martinez
Eddie Zelaya

Jo-Ann Haywood

Kelly Ryan-Rubio

Member Connection

## AFT 1521A at LACCD Dodgers Night

Thank you to all the members who joined us for LACCD Dodgers Night. It was a relaxed evening away from work and an opportunity to catch up with colleagues from across the District.

To top it off, the Dodgers gave us plenty to cheer about with an 8-2 win over the San Francisco Giants.



**Members at LACCD Dodgers Night**

# Upcoming Events

CFT Training

### Ensuring the Financial Stability of Local Unions

**Wednesday, September 30, 2026 • 4:30–6:00 PM (Zoom)**

Learn why dues matter, check whether your local's budget matches its goals, and get a toolkit for organizing your local. The training was built for the CCE, but all CFT members are welcome.

Register on Zoom

Board Meeting

### Executive Board Meeting

**Thursday, October 15, 2026 • 3:00 PM**

Join us for the Executive Board Meeting at the AFT Staff Guild Office.

> **Please note:** Executive Board meetings are open to dues-paying members only. If you are not yet a member, we encourage you to **join today**.

Day Of Action

### No Kings Day

**Saturday, October 17, 2026**

Visit the AFT Action calendar for times and locations.

View Details

CFT Training

### Immigration: Workers' Rights and Responsibilities in the Trump Era

**Wednesday, October 28, 2026 • 4:00–5:30 PM**

Visit the CFT calendar for full details and registration information.

View Details

Membership

## Not a Member Yet? Join AFT 1521A

Our union is only as strong as the people who belong to it. Membership gives you a vote in union elections and a direct say in the decisions that shape our contract. It also opens the door to member-only benefits and Executive Board meetings.

Signing up takes just a few minutes. If you know a coworker who has not joined yet, please pass this link along to them.

Become a Member

# CBA Tip of the Month

Know Your Rights

## CBA Digest – Contract Corner Spotlight

Protecting Classified Work (Article 5)

Your CBA protects the work of our bargaining unit. Under Article 5.J, unclassified workers, including student workers, shall not supplant Clerical and Technical Unit employees. Their work may supplement our work, but it cannot replace it.

**Did You Know?**

Unclassified workers cannot be hired in place of filling a Unit 1 vacancy, cannot displace a Unit 1 employee, and cannot take over the regular duties of

a Unit 1 position.

Article 5.H also requires the District to follow Personnel Commission Rules to fill Unit 1 vacancies. The union can ask for the status of any classified Unit 1 position that has been vacant for more than 60 days.

Understanding these provisions can help employees recognize when workplace practices are consistent with the contract and when questions may need to be raised.

If you have concerns, connect with your union representative.

**Reminder:** *This section is for general awareness. For specific situations, please contact your union rep.*

**View The Full CBA**

## Know Your Union Rights

**Weingarten Rights** ensure your right to have union representation during meetings with your supervisor that may lead to discipline. Use the statement below to assert your rights.

**Say this word-for-word to your supervisor if you believe a meeting may lead to discipline:**

**"If this discussion may result in disciplinary action, termination, or impact my working conditions, I respectfully request the presence of a union representative. Without representation, I**

**respectfully decline to participate in this discussion."**

**SAVE THIS STATEMENT FOR EASY ACCESS:**

- Bookmark or save this page
- Print and keep a copy at your desk
- Email it to yourself for quick reference

# Member Benefits

Exclusive perks for AFT members



**Gym Memberships**
Discounted fitness plans



**Entertainment**
Ticket discounts



**All Benefits**
Explore everything

# Contact Your Chapter Chair

Have questions or need support? Reach out to your campus chapter chair directly.

| CAMPUS | CHAPTER CHAIR & EMAIL |
|---|---|
| **LACC** | Jasminee Haywood-Daley *(Interim)*<br>cclacc@aft-1521a.org |
| **ESC** | Gloria Moreno *(Interim)*<br>ccesc@aft-1521a.org |
| **ELAC** | Rowena Smith-Kersaint<br>ccelac@aft-1521a.org |
| **LAHC** | Nadine Muro<br>cclahc@aft-1521a.org |

| CAMPUS | CHAPTER CHAIR & EMAIL |
|---|---|
| **LAMC** | Cesar Contreras<br>cclamc@aft-1521a.org |
| **LAPC** | Sean McDonald<br>cclapc@aft-1521a.org |
| **LASC** | Ruben Villanueva<br>cclasc@aft-1521a.org |
| **LATTC** | Kookie Williams *(Interim)*<br>cclattc@aft-1521a.org |
| **LAVC** | Aleta Campbell<br>cclavc@aft-1521a.org |
| **WLAC** | Maritza Medina<br>ccwlac@aft-1521a.org |

**LACC, ESC, and LATTC members:** these seats are currently covered by interim Chapter Chairs. You can reach your interim chair at the email listed above, contact any Districtwide Officer or the Staff Guild office at **323-851-1521**.

## Resources

**AFT 1521A Website**

**2023–2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)**

**Become a Member of AFT 1521A**

**Union Plus Member Benefits**

A Union of Professionals
Staff Guild
Local 1521A

**Communications Committee**

**Leslie Cruz • Melinda Ung • Elonda Austin • Chair: Kimberly “Kim” Jovel**

Questions? Please reach out to **Kimberly “Kim” Jovel**

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