## **City of Oakland Chapter Election Notice**

## August 27, 2020

## Chapter Elections Will Be Held Online Mon., Sep. 28, 7 a.m. to Thur., Oct. 1, 5 p.m.

## To Nominate Yourself or Someone Else Email Karen.Williams@seiu1021.org Before 5 p.m., Wed., Sep. 2

All Previously Submitted Valid Nominations Are Still Valid

The election committee wants to thank all of our members for their patience as we navigated the uncertain path before us. COVID-19 has had a far-reaching impact and we are all feeling it in every facet of our lives. As union members, we stand in solidarity with each other's struggles as we go to work in new and changing environments.

When we entered Shelter In Place in March, we prepared for two weeks and for life to continue on as we'd left it. That it's soon to be September and some of us still haven't been able to get back is not lost on anyone.

Our elections were just about to be set. Our location managers were being communicated with about our needs for everyone to be able to exercise their right to vote for chapter officers and we were working closely with staff to get people to help run voting booths and our newly implemented roving voting centers. We had a lot of excitement get dashed by Shelter In Place.

Your committee made the difficult decision to delay voting out of an abundance of caution around the novel coronavirus because we were listening to science and medicine about the real dangers of the virus. We believe that to have been the prudent choice and stand by that. We have worked with the Executive Board to develop strategies and solutions to our most pressing election issues: how to make sure no one is disenfranchised and able to cast a ballot and how to do that while respecting social distancing guidelines and personal safety. In that spirit, we are announcing that elections will be held 30 days from now from Monday, September 28 to Thursday, October 1, 2020. Nominations are open through 5 p.m., Wednesday, September 2, 2020. All nominations that were in at the start of shelter in place are valid. Nominations for any office may be submitted by any member in good standing and you may self-nominate. We are removing the signature requirement to allow people to maintain social distancing.

The Executive Board has contracted with Election Buddy to offer safe, encrypted, ONLINE voting for each and every member in good standing. Whether through the text blast, the email, or the link on our chapter webpage or Facebook page, our votes will count. In this current climate where our federal government is taking away and threatening our ability to vote, we applaud the Executive Board for working with us to find ways to bring more votes in.

And in order to do that, you have to do your part. **Make sure that the Membership Resource Center has your most up-to-date information. Personal email and cellphone number are the best and chosen ways we communicate with you!** Verify that we have the right ones so that you can cast your ballots: call 1-877-687-1021 to verify your contact information and that you are a member in good standing.

Our thanks to all of the people who have been instrumental to our being able to resume this endeavor; the Executive Board and our reps Karen Williams and Julio Corral as well as Election Committee Members Rocky Brown, Lina Hernandez, and Courtney Holmes.

To Vote, or to Run for Office, Make Sure You Are a Member in Good Standing: Call the Member Resource Center: 1-877-687-1021 SEIU1021.org/city-oakland | facebook.com/seiu1021/ | twitter.com/seiu1021

