

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Prestigious Seal of Solidarity Award To Be Presented at Labor Law Conference

The Seal of Solidarity Award will be presented for the first time at the Labor Law Conference at IUPUI to two individuals who have worked tirelessly as union campaign organizers to improve the lives of Hoosier workers.

The award, which pays tribute to the work done by outstanding union organizers for workers in Indiana, will be presented to Michael Van Gordon, of Indianapolis, a retired organizer for Sheet Metal Workers Local 20, and Jeff Lohman, International Representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Sixth District, which includes Indiana.

The Seal of Solidarity Award will be presented by the Organize Indiana Project, a civic engagement project with the IU Division of Labor Studies and 49 labor unions. It will be awarded annually to outstanding individuals in the field of organizing.

The leadership and work of Van Gordon and Lohman is credited with significantly influencing future generations of workers and the work of union organizers who have followed in their footsteps.

Presented by the IU Division of Labor Studies, Indiana State Building and Construction Trades Council and Central Indiana Labor Council, the Labor Law Conference will be held Saturday December 4, 2004. The conference is for workers, union members, union leadership, labor-side attorneys, and union field staff from the industrial and service sectors as well as the building trades.

Leonard Page, a former top official of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), will examine why that federal agency has failed to safeguard the fundamental right of workers to organize and join unions when he delivers the conference's keynote address. He will also outline what can be done to make the agency protect the collective bargaining rights of workers again.

Page was appointed General Counsel of the NLRB in 1999 by President Bill Clinton. He stepped down from that post in 2001.

The conference will also feature six vital and relevant workshops related to workers rights in the workplace:

Using Evidence in Arbitration and NLRB Proceedings!
Living with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

Strategic Use of Strikes!
Public Sector Collective Bargaining!
Winning with Non-NLRB Organizing Strategies!
Fighting Back on Outsourcing!

Conference participants will have the choice of attending three of the six workshops.

The conference will begin at 8:30 a.m., with check-in starting at 7:30, at the University Place Conference Center, 850 W. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. The cost is \$115 which includes materials, breakfast, lunch, and parking. Registration deadline is December 1, 2004.

Registration forms and additional information may be found at the Organize Indiana Project web site: www.organizeindiana.org or by contacting David Williams at: 317-274-2518.

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