

# Candidate Statements – IFPTE Local 21 Delegates to the 59<sup>th</sup> IFPTE Convention



Our International Union convention will be held June 25-28 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The twenty-person delegation will be made up of the ten delegates that will be elected and ten of the eleven Executive Committee officers recently elected. In accordance with Article XVI of the Local 21 Bylaws, the elected delegates will be distributed between the Local 21 regions\* (San Francisco, Oakland, East Bay, South Bay, and At-Large) based on representation numbers, according to the January 2018 EC Membership Report and the nomination petitions submitted. Delegates will be elected as proxies so that the union can vote with their full strength at the convention. An alternate will be elected from each of the contested regions in case that a delegate cannot attend. This ballot includes the delegate(s) running in your own region.

Candidates were given the opportunity to submit candidate statements, limited to 75-words. The statements are arranged in random order, separated by region. Statements are not edited for grammar, spelling or verified for accuracy by the union or the Election Committee.

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## San Francisco Region

### **Candidate: Cody Hicks; Planners & Environmental Specialists Chapter President, SFMTA, Transportation Planner**

I have been a member of Local 21 since 2015 and became president of my chapter in 2018. I am a fierce proponent of pro-labor candidates in elected office and have worked hard these last several months raising awareness about the Janus Supreme Court case and the Gold Card Campaign. Representing San Francisco at the International Convention and promoting awareness of the issues and concerns most important to San Franciscans would be a tremendous honor.

### **Candidate: Derek Omakaro; CCSF, IT Operations Support Administrator III**

Candidate did not submit a statement.

### **Candidate: Damon Curtis, P.E.; SFMTA, Engineer**

I've been a traffic engineer at SFMTA for 18 years and proud member of the Local 21 Professional Engineers Chapter since day one. I've participated in contract negotiations, particularly in the area of wage increase justification. I'm a Chapter Delegate, member of the committee that reviews Personal Service Contracts (PSCs) issued by City departments, and look forward to sharing experiences with the broader IFPTE community then using what I learn to further strengthen Local 21.

### **Candidate: Michelle Pollard; Healthcare Professionals Chapter Vice President/Secretary; DPH, Business Office of Contract Compliance**

I volunteer in the following capacity: • Attend monthly SF Council meetings • Attend Delegate Assemblies • Represent/defend employees interests as a steward • Encourage staff to sign gold cards (VOT) • Assist union staff at New Employee Orientation. In my two years of working for the city, I enthusiastically: • Organized first ever "Welcome to Your Union" training • Participated in "I Serve" video campaign • Presented at Delegate Assembly • Demonstrated in Women's March. Allow me to represent you at the conference!

### **Candidate: Michael J. Louie; Appraisers Chapter President; Office of the Assessor-Recorder, Real Property Appraiser**

I strongly believe in a transparent and responsive union to all members. Because of our concerns and issues are unique to each chapter's workplace, our union needs to be able to adapt quickly to the members' needs. I look forward to be your eyes, ears, and voice to our San Francisco membership. I endeavor to learn the various best practices across the nation for the most good to the greatest number of our members.

### **Candidate: Jo Elias-Jackson, MPA/HSA; DPH, Principal- IS Business Analyst**

**Experience/Accomplishments:** • Elected/appointed as President, Vice President, Secretary & Membership/Training Coordinator of the Information Technology (IT) Chapter. • Served on Political Action Committee (PAC), IT Advisory Committee (ITAC) & Bargaining Team. • Loyal member of IFPTE21 for over 24 years. • Employed as IT Business Analyst at the Department of Public Health. • Elected/served as Local 21 Delegate to IFPTE 58<sup>th</sup> Convention. • Elected as a Delegate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention • Appointed sfCLOUT (Community Labor Organizing Unifying Together) Delegate.

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**Candidate: Gloria Lucas-Davis; Purchasers Chapter Vice President, DPH, 1942 Assistant Materials Coordinator-Software Purchasing**

I have been an active L21 member: • Chapter Secretary (2009-2014) • SF Council Secretary (2010-2012) • Chapter President (2015) • Chapter VP (2016-present) • Member: Political Action Committee and Bargaining Team • C. L Dellums African American Union Leadership School graduate • I am a sfCLOUT Labor Community Leadership Advisory Board Member • I've represented the SF Labor Council on the D10 Implementation Committee as the Chairperson of the Workforce Subcommittee

**Candidate: Tedman Lee, P.E.; Professional Engineers Chapter President, SFPUC, 5211 Senior Engineer (Civil)**

As the President of the Professional Engineers chapter, I have and continue to be active in contract bargaining, extensions, phone banking, and promptly responding to questions from members. I'm familiar with our Union on the local level, but at the IFPTE Convention, I would have an opportunity to network and strategize on challenges facing all Unions throughout the country. I am seeking your vote to represent you as a delegate at the 59th IFPTE Convention.

**Candidate: Dean Coate; Immediate Past President, SFMTA, IS Business Analyst**

Candidate did not submit a statement.

**Candidate: Marshia Herring, MPH; Healthcare Professional Chapter Delegate/Local 21 Trustee, DPH, Health Program Coordinator**

I would like to attend the National IFPTE Conference as your Delegate. By attending this conference I hope to provide leadership needed to bring about specific reforms for San Francisco city employees in salaries, retirement, and health care benefits. I will continue to work to ensure that our Union is transparent, inclusive, accountable and responsive to the interest and concerns of its members. Your favorable vote will help me to help you.

**Candidate: Danny Yeung; Administrative Analysts & Personnel Professionals Chapter President, SFMTA, 1824 Principal Administrative Analyst**

Currently representing members in the following: • Improved Acting Assignment Pay, beyond 5% • Improved Supervisory Differential Pay, internal equity issues • Beyond Step 5, for certain job classifications • CCSF Hiring Modernization Project • Asian Pacific Islander (API) Caucus • Various Personal Service Contracts (PSCs), preventing contracting out employees • Volunteer Organizing Team (VOT), Gold Card Campaign.

Previously represented members in the following: • Contract Action Team (CAT), negotiating better wages and benefits • Telecommuting Policy and Program Update

**Candidate: John Calderon; Sign Shop Division, SFMTA, Traffic Survey Technician**

In 1984 I was hired as a sign installer, and today I'm a technician for the MTA, that's 34 years of service. Our 1st union meetings were at 126 Hyde street, with no free lunch, and no officers. The city employees were paid under the Salary Standardization Act, and used rotary telephones, no computers. I've seen changes, u betcha!, and have seen people come and go, good n bad. I deserve a vacation.

**Candidate: Cary Dare; SFMTA, Senior Administrative Analyst**

Please consider me as a delegate to the 59th IFPTE June Convention. In my 13 years with Local 21, I have served as VP and President of the Accountants and Auditor Chapter as well as being involved with contract negotiations, EDF Subcommittee, and multiple phone banking. I am currently a delegate to the Admin Analyst Chapter and a member of the PAC, Retirement, and Hiring Modernization Subcommittee. Thank you

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### **South Bay Region (*uncontested race*)**

**Candidate: Olympia Williams; City of San Jose, Community Services Supervisor**

Olympia Williams is a Community Services Supervisor at the City of San Jose, where she manages Neighborhood Services programs in the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force, which includes the Anti-Graffiti, Anti-Litter, and Project Hope Programs. Olympia is a Member of Local 21's City Association of Management Personnel, and currently serves as Vice President of CAMP. Olympia would be humbled to represent Local 21 at the 2018 IFPTE Convention.

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## Oakland Region

**Candidate: Renee Sykes; Steward, City of Oakland, Neighborhood Services Coordinator**

As the former Local 21 Oakland Vice President, my commitment and dedication to its members is strong. I am an advocate for the members and it's important that we stay updated on what is occurring in the labor movement at every level. The Janus case currently in front of the Supreme Court puts the labor movement in a vulnerable position and should make all of us more determined and diligent to protect worker's rights.

**Candidate: Bert Chang; Oakland Engineers & Architects Chapter, Real Estate Unit, Engineer, Assistant II (Office)**

Over the last two years, I have grown increasingly active and informed about being a part of this union. I have realized that the success of my Oakland Chapter requires more strategy and participation from membership. Understanding what works with other chapters is key and I look to attend the L21 National Convention to broaden my knowledge base. Incorporating the information into making successful local campaigns to help our membership agenda is my goal.

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## East Bay Region

**Candidate: Michelle Tran; City of Hayward, Development Review Specialist**

My name is Michelle Belle Tran, and I am a Development Review Specialist for the City of Hayward and a member of Local 21. Although new to the organization, I've been a longtime activist for workers and I'm not afraid to stand at the front of the picket line. I have organized with the Mountain View Tenants' Coalition to fight for Measure V, and I am organizing with the nurses' union in San Francisco for the *(statement exceeded 75-word limit)*

**Candidate: Haitham Ahmed; City of Hayward, Construction Inspector**

We will come together this June and use our collective voice. We need to have our voices heard, and to know what we all have worked hard for is protected. I would like the opportunity to stand with my Brothers and Sisters to fight for and protect our rights. As Member, I have worked with our membership to empower and ignite a spark to bring more member involvement. It's amazing to watch as *(statement exceeded 75-word limit)*

**Candidate: Michelle Torres; Previous Shop Steward, City of Hayward, Code Enforcement Inspector II**

I've been a member of several Unions in Local Government since 1995, and Local 21 since 2014. I served as Shop Steward from 2015-2017 for Local 21, representing Building, Code Enforcement and Planning. I'm a good candidate because within my job capacity I deal with resolving conflicts daily. I strongly believe having a voice to help other members reconcile their concerns and that their objectives be heard is key to what we do.

**Candidate: Carletta Starks; Chapter VP Unit L/Steward/Trustee/2017-18 Election Committee Chair, Port of Oakland, Aviation Project Coordinator**

As an active member of IFPTE Local 21, I am very interested in attending the International Convention. Through my work at Local 21, and as Vice President of Unit L at the Port of Oakland chapter, I have demonstrated my commitment to ensuring that unions continue to thrive in the current and future environment. The IC will provide the opportunity to meet and share ideas with members across the globe as we move forward.

**Candidate: Scott Hutchinson; Contra Costa County Chapter Vice President, Contra Costa County Sheriff, Network Administrator**

Raised in a Union household, I've been involved in our Union since I learned our chapter was organizing, a decade ago. I'm a proud delegate to the CCC Labor Council. At the last International Convention I found the decision-making process to be refreshingly like Local 21 Delegate Assemblies -- the largest decisions of the IFPTE are made by everyday workers like you and me. I would be privileged to represent you again this year.

**Candidate: Miguel Del Rio; City of Hayward, Public Works - Engineering & Transportation Division, Senior Construction Inspector**

I would like to represent our chapter at the 2018 IFPTE International Convention to learn more about our union and our plans to deal with the upcoming Janus case. Public sector unions and workers' rights are constantly being attacked, and I believe the experience will make me a stronger advocate for Local 21 in my community. Having served as the Hayward Chapter Treasurer for two years, I see how becoming involved gives me a more *(statement exceeded 75-word limit)*

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