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June 9, 2017

## Message to CSEA Local 830 Members

Dear Nassau Local 830 Members:

Recently, the Nassau County Interim Finance Authority (NIFA), has become noticeably more aggressive in dealing with the County and indirectly with all unions.

Three months ago, NIFA demanded that all unions forward to the County all side agreements (MOU's MOA's, arbitration awards, lawsuits, etc.) that are not already in our main contract book. CSEA has fully complied despite our belief that it is the County's obligation to produce these agreements, not the Union.

Most recently, Newsday reported that NIFA has directed the County Executive, Ed Mangano, to produce his 2018 budget with a 7% across the board reduction in expenses. They are demanding \$100 million reduction in the next budget.

Using the accounting principles NIFA is strictly using to decide if Nassau is in a deficit or a surplus leaves the County unable to show a surplus. This is called GAAP accounting standards. Using the same accounting practice every other County uses (modified accruals) the County shows a surplus with \$200 million in reserve funds.

As a County worker, you fully understand that every department in Nassau County is severely understaffed. We have been trying to get Nassau to hire more people in all areas. We take great pride in the fact that up until last year; somehow most departments were able to provide our residents with service, albeit at a much slower pace.

As an unelected board, NIFA seems to have overstepped their authority. Deciding cuts in staffing is simply not possible. We have been in touch with the Governor's office and will continue to do so, along with state and local lawmakers.

We understand the frustration NIFA has regarding the County finances. We also know that all the unions have had to shoulder the bulk of the burden over the years.

The time has come for NIFA to look at another pool of other expenses and revenues. The unions can no longer be the answer. Collectively, the unions have saved Nassau approximately \$400 million dollars, yet NIFA seems to be unsatisfied with the pain and sufferings our members have been forced to endure.

A petition will be circulating soon which will be delivered to the Governor's office demanding that he take an active role in deciding the direction that NIFA will take in the coming months.

Currently, all the unions have prepared legislation which is currently going through the state legislative process which would prevent NIFA from freezing steps if they ever decided to initiate another wage freeze.

CSEA is taking an active role in trying to change the manner in which NIFA operates insofar as the unions are concerned. Enough is enough already!

When the petitions come around, I would urge EVERY member to fully sign it, with names, phone number address and personal email. Then the Governor will take this petition seriously.

More to come. Just know that CSEA Local 830 is fully engaged in this critical matter and we plan on protecting our members as best we can.

In solidarity and unionism,

*Jerry Laricchiuta*

Jerry Laricchiuta, President CSEA Nassau Local 830