



## Dear CWA New Jersey Workers!

What a busy month! [Bargaining is ongoing](#) and [November's elections](#) are just a couple weeks away. Open enrollment has started for state workers, and you should check out [our recommendations](#) below before choosing your new health plan. Nationally, [harmful free trade agreements](#) were passed by Congress, Occupy Wall Street has taken off worldwide, and [CWA Verizon workers have joined the protest](#) in New York. See our pictures of them below, and learn how to [help elect good Democrats](#) here in New Jersey.

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### **In Case You Missed It: September Bargaining Report**

[Click here to read the latest bargaining report.](#)

### **Open Enrollment Health Plan Recommendations**

Open Enrollment is going on now! [Take a look at CWA's recommendations](#) before you select a plan to help you get the best option for you and your family.

### **Endorsements for November Elections**



District 1 Vice President Chris Shelton knocking on doors to get voters out to the polls.

CWA New Jersey has announced its [endorsements for the November Elections](#). As promised, we are not supporting ANY legislators who voted for the Pen/Ben bill or for any candidates who WOULD have voted for it had they been in office. Please make sure you turn out on November 8th for these REAL DEMOCRATS who believe in collective bargaining and in making New Jersey a great place for the middle class again. [Find your Legislative District here](#). If you need to know your polling place or have any other questions about voting, please visit: [njelections.org](http://njelections.org). CWA's endorsements for 2011 are as follows:

<p><b><u>District 1</u></b> Nelson Albano</p>	<p><b><u>District 7</u></b> Troy Singleton</p>	<p><b><u>District 11</u></b> Raymond Santiago Vin Gopal Kathy Horgan</p>
<p><b><u>District 14</u></b> Linda Greenstein Wayne DeAngelo Dan Benson</p>	<p><b><u>District 15</u></b> Shirley Turner Reed Gusciora Bonnie Watson Coleman</p>	<p><b><u>District 16</u></b> Maureen Vella Marie Corfield</p>
<p><b><u>District 17</u></b> Bob Smith Joseph Egan Upendra Chivukula</p>	<p><b><u>District 18</u></b> Barbara Buono Patrick Diegnan Peter Barnes</p>	<p><b><u>District 19</u></b> Joseph Vitale John Wisniewski Craig Coughlin</p>
<p><b><u>District 20</u></b> Joseph Cryan Annette Quijano</p>	<p><b><u>District 22</u></b> Nicholas Scutari Jerry Green Linda Stender</p>	<p><b><u>District 23</u></b> John Graf Scott McDonald Karen Carroll</p>
<p><b><u>District 27</u></b> Richard Codey John McKeon Mila Jasey</p>	<p><b><u>District 28</u></b> Ronald Rice Cleopatra Tucker Ralph Caputo</p>	<p><b><u>District 31</u></b> Sandra Cunningham Charles Mainor Jason O'Donnell</p>

<p><b><u>District 32</u></b>  Nicholas Sacco  Vincent Prieto  Angelica Jimenez</p>	<p><b><u>District 33</u></b>  Ruben Ramos  Sean Connors</p>	<p><b><u>District 34</u></b>  Nia Gill  Thomas Giblin</p>
<p><b><u>District 35</u></b>  Nellie Pou  Shavonda Sumter  Benjie Wimberly</p>	<p><b><u>District 36</u></b>  Paul Sarlo  Gary Schaer  Marlene Caride</p>	<p><b><u>District 37</u></b>  Loretta Weinberg  Gordon Johnson  Valerie Vainieri Huttle</p>
<p><b><u>District 38</u></b>  Robert Gordon  Connie Wagner  Timothy Eustace</p>		

### **Labor Walks**

Some of the candidates we've mentioned above have very difficult races ahead of them and we are helping them to win so they can defeat their anti-union opponents and fight for us in Trenton! CWA is doing [Labor Walks](#) every Saturday until Election Day. Can you spare a couple hours to help make sure that candidates who care about our issues get elected? [Click this link to find a labor walk in your area.](#)

### **Despite Poor Economy, Congress Passes Job-Killing Free Trade Agreements**

As we progress through one of the worst years for public workers in recent history in this country, President Obama saw fit to push several Bush-era agreements through Congress to do business with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea, countries where public workers have little to no ability to organize or improve their lives.

According to [one study](#), the Trade Agreements will lead to the loss of more than 200,000 American jobs in the next seven years.

The Free Trade Agreements with Korea and Panama are bad enough, but Congress also passed an agreement with Colombia, where it is illegal for public workers to unionize. More than 50 union organizers were killed in Columbia **last year**. Colombia accounts for half of all murdered unionists worldwide.

The members of Congress who voted the RIGHT way on the Colombian agreement were:

- Senator Frank R. Lautenberg\*
- Senator Robert Menendez\*
- Representative Robert E. Andrews, D-1st
- Representative Rush Holt, D-12th
- Representative Frank A. LoBiondo, R-2nd
- Representative Frank Pallone, D-6th

- Representative Bill Pascrell, Jr., D-8th\*
- Representative Donald M. Payne D-10th
- Representative Steven R. Rothman, D-9th\*
- Representative Christopher H. Smith, R-4th

\* Denotes member of Congress who voted correctly on the Colombian FTA, but voted wrong on the Panamanian and/or Korean FTAs.

The members of Congress who voted the WRONG way on the Colombian agreement were:

- Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-11th
- Representative Scott Garrett, R-5th
- Representative Leonard Lance, R-7th
- Representative Jon Runyan, R-3rd
- Representative Albio Sires, D-13th

You can use [this online tool](#) to find out if your Senator or Representative voted for this job killing agreement and send them a message.

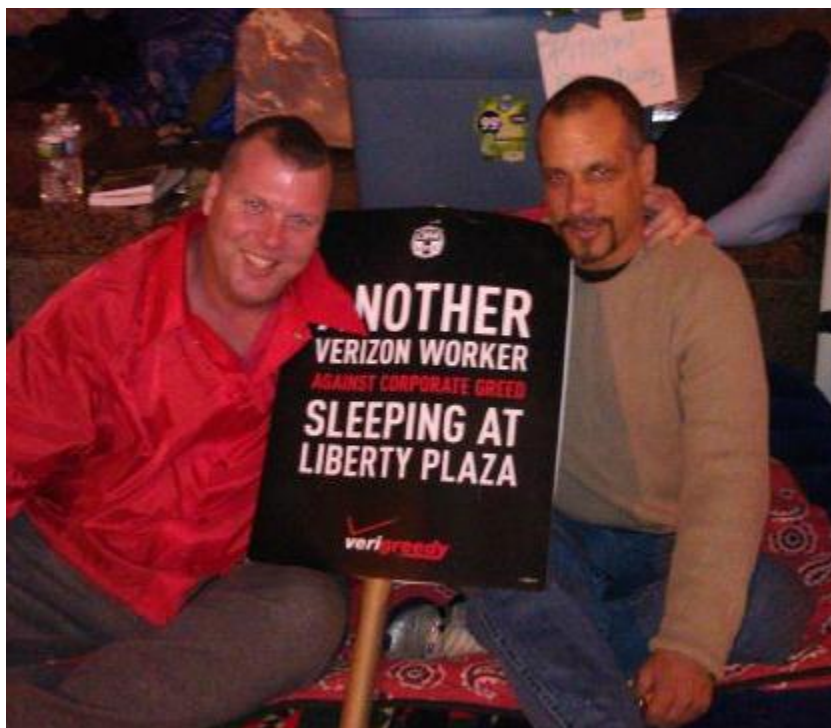
### **Occupy Wall Street, CWA, & Verizon: The 99% Demands Justice!**

[Occupy Wall Street](#), the movement of street protests demanding accountability from our government and the elimination of corporate greed that is destroying the middle class, has now spread from one protest in Lower Manhattan to over 100 cities in the United States and more than [1,500 cities worldwide](#).



CWA endorsed [the protests](#) three weeks ago, along with the Transport Workers' Union, the United Federation of Teachers, and the AFL-CIO. Occupy Wall Street is a crucial movement for middle class Americans who have been knocked down by the greed of Wall Street and its government friends. Verizon is a perfect example of the corporate interests that squeeze all they can from American workers and consumers and then take advantage of loopholes to [avoid paying their fair share of taxes](#).

CWA Verizon workers participated in the Occupy Wall Street [protests](#) this week to talk about their fight with management for a fair contract. After meeting at Verizon's NYC headquarters, at 140 West Street, a [sea of red marched down to Zuccotti Park](#), where the Occupiers are camping out, and then continued to a nearby Verizon Wireless store, all the while chanting, "We are the 99%!" Twenty workers then set up air mattresses and sleeping bags in Zuccotti Park:



Jim & Donato, CWA Local 1109

CWA workers are joining forces with Occupy Wall Street in other cities too. [Check out this video of Verizon Workers marching with Occupy Buffalo.](#)

Back in New Jersey, locals are leafletting outside Verizon Wireless stores every week. Even though Verizon workers are back at work, they have not stopped mobilizing and need your support! [Bargaining sessions](#) have been very difficult, as the company is refusing to make real, workable proposals and are instead demanding to freeze pensions for current employees and the elimination of pensions for new employees, as well as rollbacks on healthcare, job protection agreements, and sick time and disability benefits. [Click here to see what's at stake for Verizon workers](#), and [click here for recent media coverage of Verizon workers' struggle](#) for a fair contract.

### **1088 Rallies Against Cuts**

On October 24, [Local 1088 rallied](#) with other public workers to protest the on-going cuts management is trying to impose at Veterans Park on Lacey Rd in Forked River. They also emphasized the importance of getting out and voting on November 8th to send a message to Trenton and local governments that a state cannot run without funding and dedicated employees.

Local 1088 President Ellen Vidal said of the rally, "We can't be apathetic about our voting rights anymore. People are fighting all over the world to have the right to vote and to have their voices heard to make a difference in their future. Unions are in the

business of communicating, negotiating as CWA has done in Lacey. We want to be part of plans and resolutions to problems."



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