

## Quarterly Update

### Service Manager Roundtable



The Service Managers Roundtable met on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The program consisted of two important presentations. First was an update on the changes related to the JJATC Voucher Program. (see JJATC article below). The Service Managers were provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes prior to the Trustees adopting the JJATC 2018 – 2019 Budget. The Trustees did approve the new budget, which included the Voucher Program revisions. The second topic was a presentation by the LYTX company of its vehicle camera system. LYTX, a leader in its industry, provided actual footage as examples of how a contractor could benefit by installing vehicle cameras. This topic had been requested by contractors because of costs savings opportunities offered by insurance companies for those who have installed similar type systems.

The Service Managers Roundtable meets three times per year in the spring, fall and winter. The meetings are held promptly from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with lunch provided. The agenda typically addresses issues that have been requested by ARCA/MCA member companies as a way of exchanging industry related information and an exchange of ideas. The next meeting is scheduled for June 20. Watch your email for the June 20 invitation.

### JJATC Training Center

For over 70 years, the JJATC has provided the most comprehensive Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Training in the country. Many local and national testing methods and curriculum, stem from the talented instructors the JJATC is fortunate to have.

Knowing and living the importance of training; our contractors, members, trustees, committees and business representatives, realize the supplemental training is necessary, to further develop a well rounded mechanic. It is with great fortune, that the JJATC can

facilitate the Voucher Program.

This program is available to any Signatory Contractor that contributes to the JJATC training program through the collective bargaining agreement. It has been long perceived that the training covered by this program has to be strictly related to Air Conditioning and Refrigeration. In fact, the program also covers leadership development courses, various computer program training, industry related educational conferences along with other supplemental education that can benefit our members, and in turn, our contractor and customers.

The amount of allowable reimbursement is based on a contractor's work hours. Smaller contractors can benefit from the program as well with an annual \$1,500.00 minimum allotment. For all contractors, the voucher allotment is for use during the first half of the fiscal year. For the second half of the year, the maximum allowable voucher amount for any contractor is \$1,500.00.

After many successful years of supplemental voucher training, we are pleased to announce that the contractor allotment will be doubled for July 1st, 2018 through December 31st, 2018. For January 1st through June 30th, the weekly maximum allowable will be increased from \$1,500.00 to \$1,800.00.

## Voucher Form & Information

# California Legislative Conference (CLC)

### Inside the Capitol

By: Eddie Bernacchi, Politico Group

The bill introduction period for the 2018 session of the California State Legislature concluded on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Since that time, we have sifted through the 2000 plus legislative proposals introduced this year to ensure we are actively involved with all that may affect ARCA/MCA member contractors.

The 2018 legislative session has started out with a different feel than most years. It might be because it's an election year. It might be because, in the wave of the #metoo movement, three sitting members of the State Legislature have been removed from office and two more have been placed under investigation for sexual harassment misconduct. Or, it might be because California's democratic legislative leaders have taken up the mantle as the voice of opposition to the Trump administration. But, for whatever reason, the tone of this year's session seems to be focused on grabbing headlines.

While most of our time is spent on industry specific legislation, we also get involved in those measure that you read about in your local paper or you see featured on the local nightly news. Below is a brief summary of the most important measures we will be involved with on your behalf in 2018.

### Market Share

**AB 2031 (O'Donnell) – Mandatory Pre-qualification of mechanical contractors on school projects** – Eliminates the sunset on the requirement that school districts prequalify all mechanical contractors if the project includes mechanical, or plumbing components that will be performed by mechanical, or plumbing contractors.

**AB 3222 (O'Donnell) – Charter school prevailing wage** – Expands the requirement to pay prevailing wage on construction projects to Charter Schools that utilize tax exempt state issued revenue conduit bonds.

**SB 914 (Dodd) – Expansion of the skilled and trained workforce requirements** – State law currently requires that contractors bidding alternative delivery method public works contracts, guarantee that up to 60% of the employees used on the project have graduated from a state approved apprenticeship program. This policy has driven much of the covered work to union contractors. This bill would expand the policy into construction manager at risk work performed by counties.

## **Labor Relations**

**AB 2069 (Bonta) – Medicinal cannabis and drug testing** – Would prohibit an employer from engaging in employment discrimination against a person on the basis of a positive drug test for cannabis if the person has been proscribed medical cannabis.

**AB 2841 (Gonzalez-Fletcher) – Paid Sick Leave** – Expands the number of paid sick leave days that are mandated to be provide to employees in California from 3 days to 5 days.

## **Employer Law**

**SB 1343 (Mitchell) – Sexual harassment training requirements** – Requires employers with 5 or more employees to provide at least 2 hours of sexual harassment training to all employees once every two years.

# Piping Industry Progress & Education (P.I.P.E.)

Piping Industry Progress and Education (P.I.P.E.) firmly believes that attracting the right candidates to pursue careers in piping, plumbing, and HVACR is critical to the long-term vitality of the industry. That is why Piping Industry Progress and Education Trust Fund Labor-Management Cooperation Committee, or better known as P.I.P.E., is committed to developing new avenues to efficiently and effectively attract the best candidates.

One such avenue is our Pipe Careers website, [www.pipecareers.com](http://www.pipecareers.com), which allows potential candidates to read up on the various careers we offer under the pipe trades. The website highlights six career options: Welder, Pipefitter, HVACR Technician, Plumber, Sprinkler Fitter, and Irrigation/Landscape Fitter. The website also offers an application portal for each of the careers.

P.I.P.E. was formed in 1980 to improve communications between labor and management, to explore joint approaches to problems, to prevent potential problems and to improve occupational safety and health and other working conditions. Through union contractors and union pipe trades workers, P.I.P.E. works to advance the industry. That is why part of P.I.P.E.'s mission to advance the industry is to promote the pipe trades as a career, not just a job.

P.I.P.E. is consistently looking for ways to improve the website. Last year, we updated the website to promote the Southern California Pipe Trades apprenticeship program and organized labor. This includes an 11-minute video that discusses the apprenticeship program's entry requirements, apprentice's experiences and future career prospects. Many newly-hired apprentices credit watching this video in making their decision to pursue a career in the industry.

P.I.P.E. has also updated the website to benefit local unions. Once an applicant applies through the website, his/her information is immediately transmitted to the relevant local unions. The unions then review the application, both those with no experience and those with experience in the pipe trades. We also process specific requests from local unions for apprentices and journeymen through targeted marketing strategies, like Google Ads. For example, if a local union requests more plumbers in the Los Angeles area, through Google, we specifically target only people in the Los Angeles area searching for "plumbing jobs."

In its quest to improve, P.I.P.E. has also received valuable feedback from labor and management. For instance, during a P.I.P.E. meeting, management requested an application portal geared towards other job positions that contractors may require. These job types include but are not limited to estimator, bookkeeper, office manager, project superintendent, class 1 truck driver, sales service representative, service manager, accounts payable, designer, mechanical engineer, project manager, business development manager, dispatcher, accounts receivable, plumbing engineer, equipment operator, and administration supervisor. P.I.P.E. is currently in the process of addressing this suggestion and implementing a solution.

P.I.P.E. looks forward to maintaining the website as the primary information and application portal for community members interested in a career in the Southern California Pipe Trades.

If you have any questions/comments, please contact Christina Flores at [christina@pipe.org](mailto:christina@pipe.org) or 213-382-5255.

[P.I.P.E Careers Website](#)

[Email Christina](#)

## Mechanical Service Contractors Association



The Mechanical Service Contractors Association (MSCA) annual education conference will be held in Huntington Beach, CA from October 21 - October 24, 2018.

[MISSION STATEMENT](#) | [MEMBERS](#) | [CALENDAR](#) | [COMMITTEE MEMBERS](#) | [CONTACTS](#)

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