



James P. Hoffa, General President • C. Thomas Keegel, General Secretary–Treasurer • Ed Jacobson, Director BMCT Division

☆ Meet ☆

## JOE BIDEN

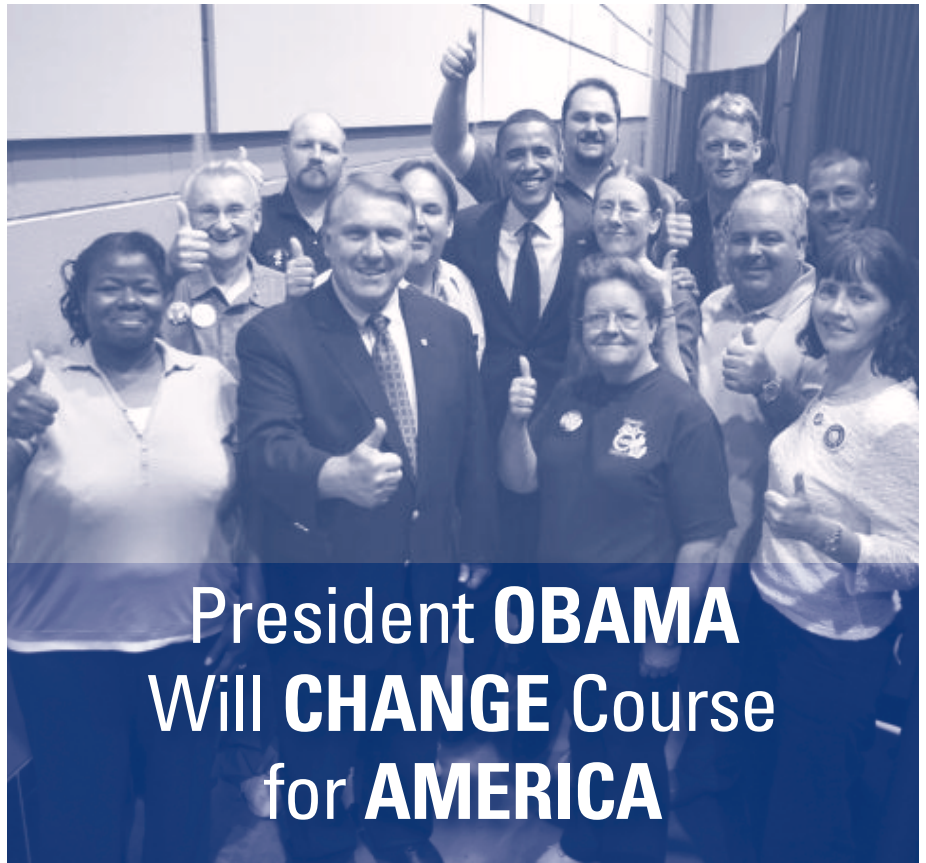
### Delaware Senator is Longtime Labor Ally

Sen. Joe Biden is running for vice president and the Teamsters Union is thrilled that such a staunch ally of the union, and the labor movement in general, was picked by Barack Obama as his running mate.

“Sen. Biden has always been a friend to working families and is a key Teamster ally,” said Jim Hoffa, Teamsters General President. “He knows that unions are a central part of our democratic society. We appreciate his strong voice and steady hand in representing the interests of American workers, and know that he will continue to do so as vice president.”

“You, not big business, built the middle class in this country,” Biden said at the Teamsters 27th International Convention in 2006. “You are the only thing that stands

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## President OBAMA Will CHANGE Course for AMERICA

A Man of Modest Beginnings, He's One of Us

This November, voters will decide if working families will share in America's prosperity—or if our economic stability will continue to crumble. In short, we'll decide to give Barack Obama a chance to change the country—or we'll let John McCain serve as the Bush administration's third term.

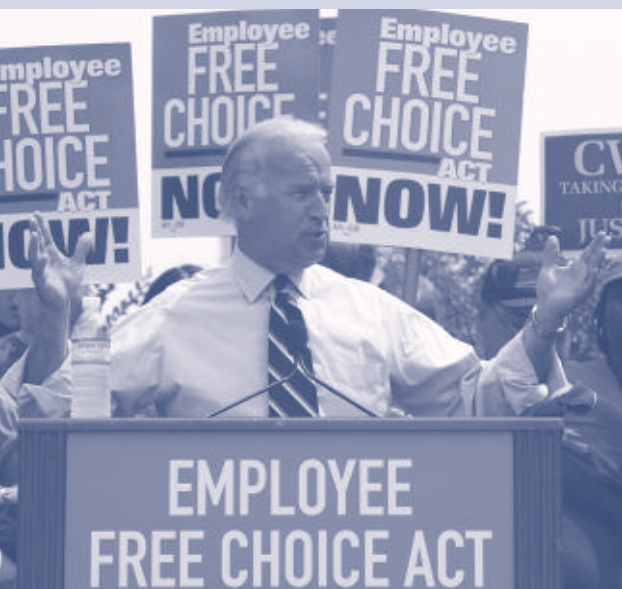
“Looking at the problems facing our great nation, and the presidential candidates who will inherit eight years of disastrous policies and neglect of working families, one thing is clear: McCain is not the person who will right the wrongs of the Bush administration,” said Jim Hoffa, Teamsters General President.

Obama has always had an open-door policy with the Teamsters, going back to his days in the Illinois State Senate. But even the rigors of the campaign trail don't keep him from talking to rank-and-file Teamsters about the problems they're facing on the job today.

On September 9, he spoke with a bargaining unit of Teamsters in Ohio and talked about his plan for saving American jobs if he's elected president.

“One of the central beliefs I have in running (for president) is, unless we strengthen our manufacturing base, ...our economy is going to continue to be held up,” he said

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# A Message From Division Director Ed Jacobson

## A Clear Choice

We face a clear choice this election: A choice between Barack Obama, who has fought for working people throughout his career, or John McCain, who has done everything he can to undermine honest hard working people—you know, those of us who have only one house.



You might think that someone who owns so much real estate would be good for construction, unfortunately that isn't the case. For more times than I can count, John McCain has voted to weaken or revoke Davis-Bacon Act protections. Davis-Bacon requires that public construction projects pay workers a "prevailing" wage. That means a fair wage. It not only protects our paychecks, it also protects the government and taxpayers against shoddy work from employers who cut corners.

McCain wanted to prohibit Davis-Bacon in federal disaster areas. He voted to create a new "underclass" of workers who would never qualify for Davis-Bacon wage protections. And in 1996, he even voted for the repeal of this very important measure.

Obama, by contrast, supports Davis-Bacon laws and wants to strengthen other worker protections, such as the Employee Free Choice Act. Obama also wants to make it illegal to permanently replace striking union workers; McCain doesn't. Obama wants to end tax breaks to corporations that move jobs overseas, reward companies that keep jobs here at home and create thousands of new construction jobs by investing in our nation's infrastructure.

Like I said, the choice couldn't be clearer. You can either vote for more of the same anti-union, anti-working family nonsense we've had for past eight years, or you could vote for change. Vote for Barack Obama.



## President **OBAMA** continued from page 1

to the Teamsters who he met with after his speech.

### Achieving the American Dream

Obama worked hard to get where he is, and he understands the value of hard work. He

emphasizes how important it is for America to reward work, not just wealth. The son of a single mother, he was raised by his grandparents and worked his way through college. After that, we worked with a church-based group to help neighborhoods recover from steel plant closings.

"Obama understands what working families need to achieve the American dream," Hoffa said. "He has been a tireless advocate for workers and he will continue fight-

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– JIM HOFFA  
Teamsters General President

ing for the middle class when he's president."

He sponsored the Patriot Employer Act, which would give tax breaks to companies that stay in America and treat their workers well. He has promised to review NAFTA and to renegotiate

it if necessary, and he will oppose bad trade deals.

Furthermore, a President Obama will sign the Employee Free Choice Act into law and will provide quality affordable health care to all Americans.

Barack Obama stands squarely on the side of working men and women. As General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Keegel told the Teamsters at this year's Unity Conference, "Barack Obama walks picket lines, John McCain crosses them."

## Meet JOE BIDEN continued from page 1

between the middle class and the shifting power in America to the very powerful.”

Biden became ranking Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee in 1997 and served as chairman of the committee from 2001 to 2003 and from January 2007 to the present. He has served as chairman or ranking member of the Judiciary Committee for 16 years. He is often called one of the nation’s leading authorities on foreign policy and does not hesitate to work with Republicans when the situation calls for it.

For the past two decades, Biden has had a hand in crafting almost every piece of crime legislation that has been made law. For example, his Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 put more than 100,000 police officers on America’s streets and has been credited with bringing down crime rates to the lowest in a generation. Also, in 1996, Biden authored legislation to create a national registry of sex offenders, which tracks people convicted of sex crimes involving violence or committed against minors. The landmark Violence Against Women Act, the strongest legislation to date that criminalizes domestic violence and holds batterers accountable, was authored by Biden.

His achievements go beyond crime issues, though. He has

long been a supporter of making college more affordable by using the tax code to reduce costs. Also, he was successful in passing a provision that prevents budget cuts to military facilities while the nation is at war, one of his key priorities, ensuring that all veterans have top-notch medical treatment in a fully-funded VA health care system.

“Joe Biden’s record of bringing people together to get things done is an impressive one, and the depth of his knowledge and respect for working Americans is enormous,” Hoffa said. “He has fought every day of his life in public service to improve the lives of middle-class families.”

### Get Involved!

A unified voting bloc of 1.4 million Teamster brothers and sisters can sway this election in the right direction—toward meaningful change. With Teamsters working to get Sen. Barack Obama and other labor-friendly politicians elected, it benefits not only the nation but the labor movement.

To find out how you can get involved in your community, visit [TeamstersForObama.org](http://TeamstersForObama.org) and log in using your members-only password, Obama08.

## Show Your Pride

Visit [www.TeamstersForObama.com](http://www.TeamstersForObama.com) to purchase your official Teamsters for Obama and DRIVE gear. Proceeds from the sales of these products will be used by DRIVE, the Teamsters’ political action committee.



Access [TeamstersForObama.com](http://TeamstersForObama.com) today using your members-only password: **Obama08**

## A Message from General President James P. Hoffa



### OBAMA's Labor Day Message

On September 1, I had the pleasure of standing with Sen. Barack Obama as he gave a Labor Day speech in Detroit. I thought it important to share some of Obama's message with you. His stirring speech shows yet again why the Teamsters Union endorses him—because he stands with working Americans and not with big business.

“America was built by its laborers, but today our workers are struggling just to get by in an economy that no longer works for them...It's time we had a president who will stand up for working men and women by building an economy that rewards not just wealth, but work and the workers who create it,” Obama said.

With Sen. John McCain proposing \$4 billion in new tax breaks for oil companies, Obama's plan to end tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas is refreshing. Obama's fiscal plan will also put a \$1,000 tax cut into the pockets of 95 percent of workers and their families.

“It's time you had a president who honors organized labor—who's walked on picket lines; who doesn't choke on the word union; who lets our unions do what they do best and organize our workers; and who will finally make the Employee Free Choice Act the law of the land,” he said. “I've spent my entire career fighting for working men and women. And so has my running mate, Joe Biden, a man whose heart and values are rooted firmly in the middle class.”

Find out more about this exciting program by talking to your local union, or on the web at [www.teamster.org/drive](http://www.teamster.org/drive)



Take a Stand for Working Families

Visit [www.teamster.org](http://www.teamster.org)

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