



TradeShow

The Teamster Trade Show & Convention Center News

James P. Hoffa, General President • C. Thomas Keegel, General Secretary–Treasurer • John Perry, Director

☆ 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 John Perry

OBAMA in 2008!

As Election Day nears, it is critical for every Trade Show Teamster member to fully understand the Employee Free Choice Act, a law that will level the playing field for how union organizing is handled in this country. It's important to understand the potential of our great union's size and added power when this law is passed.

Sen. Barack Obama promised the Teamsters that he'd not only pass this important law once he is elected president, he will also work to pass a number of other pro-labor laws. You can read up on all his positions on labor at the Teamsters-only site www.TeamstersForObama.com (password: Obama08).

There is a reason as to why this newsletter is dedicated to Obama and this election: Every Teamster sister and brother, every working family, will benefit from the laws Obama promises to pass.

The Employee Free Choice Act recognizes that when more than half of workers in a bargaining unit votes UNION YES on a sign-up card, the company must recognize the workers' union. The Employee Free Choice Act also has specific language to dissuade company interference of any organizing campaign.

Can you imagine what this would have been like for the Taj Mahal workers in New Jersey? Can you imagine the Employee Free Choice Act in place while Orlando workers organize? These, and so many other organizing campaigns, would be a great deal fairer to the everyday trade show worker.

I urge you to join me and the Teamsters Union in supporting Barack Obama for president.



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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 fighting 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."

"Obama understands what working families need to achieve the American dream."

– JIM HOFFA
Teamsters General President

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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 and log in using your members-only password, Obama08.

Show Your Pride

Visit 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 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



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