

# FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS IUE-CWA 81381 AFL-CIO

## FSW Function Report

**Name and Title:** LaTonya Wilcox – FSW Grievance Co-Chair

**Name and nature of event/function (i.e. District 1 Conference, Steward Training at ILR, etc.):** CWA Gender Inequality Training (Fighting for Gender Justice and Equity) and The CWA 2022 Human Rights Conference Phoenix, Arizona

**Dates attended:** August 4, 2022 - August 11, 2022

### **What was the purpose/goal of the function?**

CWA Gender Inequality Training (Fighting for Gender Justice and Equity) - This training began with an introduction of each member of the Human Rights Committee and the National Women's Committee from their various sectors (I am currently serving as the IUE-CWA Sector Women's Committee) with each of us providing a report on the actions completed individually and actions completed by our sector since the last CWA National Conference to current events/actions and to receive training and given an assignment on Gender Justice. Following the training the Human Rights Committee presented and participated in the 2022 CWA National Human Rights Conference.

### **What did you learn and/or what significant information was shared at the function?**

Learned from the Gender Justice training the importance of using Pronouns, recognizing common biases in the workplace that women experience. We were provided stats regarding women and those who identify in the LGBTQ+ community disparities in wage gaps and leadership in the workplace. We also looked at the impact of the Supreme Court's overturn of Roe v. Wade and the potential challenges this could potentially affect.

At the CWA 2022 Human Rights Conference our theme was "Where There Is Injustice, You Will Find Us". I was honored to introduce our IUE-CWA President Carl Kennebrew and open the second day of the conference in a song rally. We were honored to have speakers and presentations that dealt with Voter's Rights and Voter Suppression, Reproductive Rights and Gender Justice, Understanding and Embracing Our Transgender Siblings, Critical Race Theory, Right to Work Issues, Mobilization, and Combatting Human Trafficking. There were panels on Women in Politics and Broadband Equity. We were honored to have U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee, Mayor Robin Mouton, Senator Karla May (D-MO-4th District), Councilwoman Betty Guardado City of Phoenix, District 5 as speak. Newly elected (former Human Right's Committee Rep) and first LGBTQ+ AFA-CWA Vice President Keturah Johnson spoke as well as CWA President Chris Shelton and Secretary Treasurer Sara Steffens. There were thought provoking presentations from the Black and Missing Foundation and on Restorative Rights. We did an activist mall whereby attendees went to various stations based on various workshops presented to participate in real time actions; from sign making and using social media in support of our LGBTQ+ Siblings to writing postcards for restoration rights, participating in the blue campaign to address human trafficking and equal rights.

### **How is what you learned relevant to FSW?**

## **FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS IUE-CWA 81381 AFL-CIO**

The trainings and workshops provided are essential to building an anti-racist union and addressing gender injustices not only in the workplace but in community. The activist mall is an action our members as well as the labor community can embrace. FSW can be innovative in sponsoring an activist mall. I also think our CRE and Women's Committees can be proactive in mobilizing our members into activism. In addition, our local can be active in sponsoring events and supporting community initiatives that support human rights efforts.