

## **FSW Function Report**

**Name and Title: Michelle McGrain Grievance Co Chair**

**CWA 79<sup>th</sup> Convention and District meetings  
St Louis Missouri 7/9/23-7/10/23**

I had the honor of being elected as an alternate to this years CWA convention. I was excited for several reasons. I was mostly excited as it was an election year. The first convention I attended CWA President, Morty Bahr (Barr?) was retiring, the 2<sup>nd</sup> convention I attended Larry Cohen was retiring. This convention Chris Shelton was retiring after 8 years as President and over 50 years as an active union member. Not getting into any details but there was controversy surrounding one of the candidates that was running, it made things more interesting. There ended up being 3 candidates for the position of President. A vote was done about 6pm- ended up being too close to call between two of the candidates so a run off vote was needed. That vote was held at 10:30pm. I put the times in there as sometimes membership thinks conferences and other union function are from 9-5. In reality there are times the net working and meetings start as early as 7:00 am and can run til past our normal bedtimes. Back to the election- Claude Cummings Jr, from District 6 ( FSW is District 1) is the 8<sup>th</sup> president of CWA. Carl Kennebrew, remains our D-1 President as he ran unopposed. The Convention is held similar to our Eboard meetings-Treasurers report, committee reports, adoption of meeting rules, trustee reports, Latonya Wilcox is a trustee.

Fun Facts:

Public Sector is now the largest part of CWA

Union democracy is our core value

We are all union by choice

CWA and other Unions have organized more in the last 4 years then in the last 35 years

**How does your attendance at the function benefit members?**

**The Convention is a mandatory meeting for locals.**

**The delegates vote on proposals, amendments, resolutions and other issues that arise.**

**This year was an election year for the entire CWA Executive Board**

**I would like to thank the membership for allowing me to attend.**

**I had stepped back from traveling with the local for awhile . It was nice to see people face to face that I had not seen it years. It was nice for people to come up and ask how John Vasko or Evelyn Evans are doing. I also reconnected with some IUE members from the most recent Bargaining training and District 1 meeting. The 80<sup>th</sup> CWA Convention will be 2025 in Pittsburgh, PA- Go Steelers!**

**Michelle McGrain 7/17/23**

