



# CISCO

## CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org) - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

### INDUSTRY NEWS: COULD JANUS RULING AFFECT PRIVATE SECTOR UNIONS TOO?

As we all know by now, last month's Supreme Court ruling said that public sector union workers can't be forced to pay "fair-share" fees to unions they don't want to join.



However, the bigger question: Could that ruling apply to private sector employees? Included among private sector unions are, of course, the union construction industry building trades.

**The following excerpts are from a July 9, 2018, Chicago Tribune article written by Alexia Elejalde-Ruiz.**

The Janus ruling could give momentum to efforts to abolish mandatory fees for private sector union members altogether. Currently 28 states have adopted right-to-work (RTW) for less legislation that says individuals can't be required to join labor unions or pay union dues. A national bill is pending in Congress.

There will be pressure to give private sector employees (in the remaining 22 states) the same choice: the option to opt out of paying agency fees.

Illinois is fortunate to have legislators on both sides of the aisle who support unions and working family initiatives, therefore, the state

is not expected to pass a state RTW law despite Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner's support. "But if unions' diminished capacity to fund labor-friendly legislators reshapes the political composition of state governments, even historically blue states could swing toward adopting RTW legislation," says Bob Bruno, labor professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Some pro-labor activists, including Bruno, worry that the Janus ruling could also help RTW activists bring a constitutional challenge to mandatory fees in private sector unions.

#### A Matter for Debate

But whether the Supreme Court's logic in outlawing fair-share fees in public sector could be extended to the private sector is a matter for debate.

The court may have ruled that collecting fees from non-consenting government employees, who are protected by the First Amendment, violates their free-speech rights. However, most legal analyses of the ruling say the court's reasoning wouldn't apply to private sector employees as their First Amendment protection in their employer relationships differs.

"It's important the union be seen in the community as a champion of the community's interest, so that when they're bargaining it's not just for their members but for the common good," Bruno said. "More money in schools, more racial justice, more health care clinics, you rally with public housing advocates and social justice advocates. And when you bargain, you do so with those communities in mind," he added.

#### WHAT LABOR LEADERS HAVE SAID

The Janus outcome was expected within labor and construction circles. Based on the responses below, the decision will unify unions even more.

*"We're going to keep making sure that everyone understands who's behind this case - the powerful corporate interests and billionaires that funded it - and what they're really about: taking away the freedom of working people to have a voice for themselves and their communities."*

**- AFSCME spokesman Anders Lindall**

*"This decision will not break the spirit of American workers, and it will not break the unions who defend them. Strong unions will continue to form in the workplace to fight for economic and social justice. Workers from coast to coast will continue to stand together in solidarity. We will continue to fight for a stronger America that values the work of all people, not just the elite few."*

**- CFL President Robert Reiter**

*"By joining together in strong unions, working people have been able to level the economic and political playing field. We must educate the public that employer healthcare benefits, safe working conditions, paid vacations, social security, and a 40-hour work week, are just a few of the many benefits unions have obtained for all workers. We must not allow the divide and conquer tactics of corporate interests to erode these hard fought rights, to the detriment of working families."*

**- CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen**

*More news and photos on the back page.*

# CISCO ON THE MOVE

## REGISTER TODAY FOR CISCO'S ANNUAL GOLF OUTING - SEPT. 10th



CISCO's Annual Golf Outing will be held on Monday, September 10, 2018 at Bloomingdale Golf Club - 181

Glen Ellyn Road in Bloomingdale, IL.

Start gathering your foursomes and working on your short game! Fabulous barbecue luncheon, traditional prize raffle, and an event full of fun and surprises have marked this outing over the years!

Registration and sponsorship forms are available on CISCO's website - [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org). To view and download, click on this link: <http://cisco.org/wp-content/pdf/Golf-flyer18.pdf> or call (630) 472-9411.

## SUMMER CAREER FAIR SCHEDULE CONTINUES TO EXPAND

Last year, CISCO, the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades and the Chicago Housing Authority held two separate Hands-On Expos for a total of 400 residents as part of a unique Project Labor Agreement designed to recruit CHA residents into the building trades' apprenticeship programs.

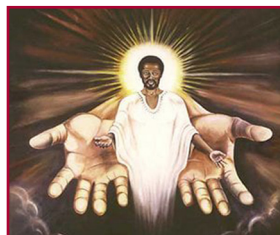


*Bricklayers Apprenticeship Coordinator Dave Naprstek shows CHA residents how to lay brick during last year's event.*

This year, the three organizations will hold a two-day event on the mornings of **Thursday, July 26 and Friday, July 27.**

Once again, the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters will host the event at its satellite Apprenticeship & Training Center in Chicago.

## St. Sabina Church Expo



As we highlighted earlier this year, CISCO began working with St. Sabina Church's

"Strong Futures Program," which the church began in 2016 as a pilot program of the City of Chicago and Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS).

On **Friday, August 10**, CISCO and St. Sabina will co-sponsor its inaugural Hands-On Expo. Participants will be able to talk to Apprenticeship Coordinators, Instructors and Apprentices of several building trades to learn about a career in the union construction industry.

CISCO's mission and that of the Strong Futures model are a match, as the Strong Futures program was designed to create a more efficient way to service young adults by connecting them to existing workforce options, creating a successful pathway into the work place.

## Village of Hazel Crest Expo

CISCO and the Village of Hazel Crest will partner to conduct a Skilled Laborers Career Fair on **Wednesday, August 15, from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.** at the Hazel Crest Village Hall - 3000 W. 170th Place.



The Hazel Crest Career Fair is open to anyone interested in entering any of the building trades. The event is an information-only (no hiring) Career Fair, in which several trades' representatives will be on hand to explain to the attendees what is

required to apply to their respective apprenticeship programs, and what the expectations are to excel in the programs.

## St. Paul Community Development Ministries 5th Annual Career Expo



St. Paul Community Development Ministries (SPCDM) will once again team with CISCO, the Chicago Teachers

Union and other agencies to hold its 5th Annual Construction Careers/ Related Industries Expo on Thursday, August 16th, from 8:00 a.m. - Noon at the SPCDM facilities at 4526 - 4550 S. Wabash Avenue in Chicago.

During the Expo, attendees will get a chance to learn first-hand what it takes to become an electrician, carpenter, bricklayer, pipefitter or other union building trades careers.

For more details, call SPCDM at 773.538.5120. Registration: <https://spcdm-constructionexpo.eventbrite.com>

## NATIONAL LABOR-MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE - AUGUST 21-23



The Federal Mediation &

Conciliation Service's National Labor-Management Conference this year is titled Solutions for

Today. Vision For Tomorrow, and will be held from August 21 - 23 at the Hilton Chicago Hotel.

Registration is now open. Learn more and register at [www.fmcs.gov](http://www.fmcs.gov)

