

Organized March 3, 1887



# Theatrical Stage Employees Union Local Two

216 S. Jefferson St., Suite 400  
Chicago, IL 60661  
Phone (312) 705-2020  
Fax (312) 705-2011

March 16, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

News programs continue to report the spread of Coronavirus throughout the United States. Health risks are being mitigated by each of you hunkering down and protecting your families. While these protocols are not good for our finances, doing so will save many lives; so please stay calm and follow the recommendations of health authorities regarding safety and how to avoid contracting or spreading Coronavirus.

Many businesses have closed. All three IATSE Offices, located in New York, California and Canada, are now closed for the next two weeks. This is due to the edict of New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and California's Gavin Newsom in conjunction with these IATSE Office location's respective Mayors, Bill De Blasio and Eric Garcetti. Their staffs will work from home.

Local 2 will remain open for business although we'll staff our office with a skeleton crew and remaining office crew will pick-up files and supplies as needed in order to work from home. Fortunately, our upgraded IT and digital systems allow us to remotely keep current with our many administrative demands.

I strongly encourage you to file for unemployment, and to do so online if possible. Filing will get you needed income during this horrific time and applying online will keep you away from crowds. Please refer to your L2 "e-membership portal" along with your "Call Steward" for your employment history. Please note that Local 2 is not your employer. I've sent detailed unemployment information to you in previous emails but for your convenience the IDES link is:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/Pages/COVID-19-and-Unemployment-Benefits.aspx>

Furthermore, President Robinson, Vice-President Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer Herrmann and I will forego our salaries and continue to advocate for you "on our own time". We're all in this together.

I'm hopeful that we'll soon find ourselves working on various jobsites together with the Coronavirus behind us and a lifetime of better times ahead. Until then, in your personal lives, please stay safe and don't panic. Feel free to text, email or call with any questions.

In Unity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Craig Carlson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Craig" being more prominent than the last name "Carlson".

Craig Carlson  
Business Manager