

For Immediate Release
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ATU President Strengthens Bargaining Team

Saying that “all resources and experiences are necessary” Bruce Hansen, ATU president has called on former ATU 757 president and former ATU International president, Ron Heintzman, to join the Union’s bargaining team.

“We are a union family and when a family is threatened differences in opinion need to be put aside and we all need to work together to protect the family. In this case, TriMet has already signaled its intent to devastate its employees both financially and in the quality of their working conditions,” says Hansen. He noted that his executive board agrees with his decision. “Ron Heintzman has bargained every TriMet contract since 1988. Management is trying to destroy all those gains.” As an International officer, Heintzman also bargained scores of contracts nationwide.

Heintzman was Hansen’s closest rival for the Local’s presidency in 2012. When asked about involving his rival, Hansen said “My priority is, and has to be, what is in the best interests of our members who work for TriMet. The extraordinary behavior of TriMet’s management team requires an extraordinary response. Bottom line, it only makes sense that we have someone at the table who has Mr. Heintzman’s history and experience. We are grateful that he has agreed to serve.”

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