

LOCAL UNION 21
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

RONALD E. KASTNER
President- Business Manager
& Financial Secretary

KEVIN CURRAN
Vice President



LINDA COX
Recording Secretary

JACQUIE FIELDS
Treasurer

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**STATES LARGEST TELECOM UNION PRESIDENT ELECTED TO FOUR-YEAR TERM
ON ILLINOIS STATE AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Chicago, IL – Illinois AFL-CIO state convention delegates elected Ronald E. Kastner as vice-president to serve a four-year term on the Illinois AFL-CIO Executive Board.

Kastner, President-Business Manager and Financial Secretary of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 21 was elected on October 8th last week, as the Board marked the 50th anniversary of the Illinois AFL-CIO charter at the 2008 State Labor Convention in Chicago. The Illinois AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor – Congress of Industrial Organizations) is the umbrella organization for 1500 affiliated unions with 900,000 members in the state.

Ron Kastner is a lifelong resident of Chicago's suburbs and member of the IBEW for 40 years. "I am honored to serve on one of our countries strongest Labor Federations," said Kastner. "This is a critical time for organized labor and for all working families in our state. I will continue working hard to better protect workers' rights on the job, and that includes pushing hard over the next three weeks to elect our endorsed candidates Barack Obama and Joe Biden."

The State Federation received its AFL-CIO charter in Peoria on October 7, 1958 from then president of the national AFL-CIO George Meany, just three years after the merger of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) in 1955.

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Background

Local Union 21 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW – an affiliate of the AFL-CIO) is made up of 11,300 members working mostly in Illinois and NW Indiana. Working under dozens of contracts, Local Union 21 members largely work in skilled jobs in the telecommunications industry. IBEW Local Union 21, headquartered in Downers Grove, IL, is the largest IBEW communications union in the United States and Canada and the fourth largest local union in the IBEW.

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