

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  
TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2008

**Contact:** Thomas Hopper  
Communications Director, I.B.E.W. Local 21  
630-960-4466 x223 (office) / 630-222-9119 (cell)

### **TELECOM UNION PRESIDENT JOINS STATE AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Downers Grove, IL – The leader of the State’s largest union of telecommunication workers takes his position today on the Illinois AFL-CIO Executive Board. The Illinois AFL-CIO is the umbrella organization for one million union members in the state.

Ronald E. Kastner, President-Business Manager and Financial Secretary of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 21 join’s the Board this year as it marks the 50th anniversary of the Illinois AFL-CIO state charter. The State Federation received its AFL-CIO charter 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 and the Congress of Industrial Organizations in 1955.

Ron Kastner is a lifelong resident of Chicago’s suburbs and member of the IBEW for 40 years. “I am honored to serve union members and their families throughout Illinois in this new position,” said Kastner. “I will continue working hard, doing whatever it takes to support the working families in our state, defending their rights at work and securing justice in their workplaces.”

**###**

#### Background

*Local Union 21 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW – an affiliate of the AFLCIO) is made up of 11,000 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.*

Office: 1307 Butterfield Road • Suite 422 • Downers Grove, Illinois 60516-5606  
(630) 960-4466 • Fax (630) 960-9607  
Website: [www.ibew21.org](http://www.ibew21.org)