



LOCAL 1031, AFL-CIO

Communications Workers of America
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Kathleen Hernandez
President

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Dear CWA Local 1031 Member:

As we head into the summer, I wanted to take a moment to check in to express my gratitude and remind you of some of the great things we have accomplished together.

After all of our hard work last year to bargain a new contract, we have a 3.5% salary increase coming this July. You should see the increase in your paycheck beginning the first full pay period after July 1st (July 13th), which for most of you will be paid on August 2nd. In addition to this increase for all, any of you that are in salary ranges 1-8 will automatically be moved to a range 9. Those of you that were already at step 10 of your salary range on July 1, 2023, will have one more year until you are eligible to be moved to the newly negotiated 11th step. In the future, all members will be eligible to move to this 11th step after two years on step 10.

The only reason we have these benefits is because of the strength of our 30,000 informed and engaged CWA members standing together.

Another important benefit that's tied directly to New Jersey's state budget is our pension. Every year when the state budget is being negotiated by our elected officials, CWA members stand together to demand that a full payment to our pension fund is included - and for the past three years, we've made it happen. You may not be thinking about retirement just yet, but our pensions are *vital* for our futures. We work hard throughout our careers to earn a decent retirement, and we will fight to protect it.

The NJ state budget is due to be finalized by the end of June, so we'll be mobilizing over the next two weeks to rally, lobby, and take action to tell our state legislators: **FUND OUR PENSIONS AND PROTECT OUR HARD-EARNED RETIREMENT.**

INFORMATION ON OTHER MEMBER BENEFITS:

In July, we will be sending out applications and instructions on how to participate in Local 1031's Scholarship and Dependent Care Drawing made available to our Local 1031 members, so be on the lookout for it! It will also be posted on our website: <https://cwa1031.org>

We know that the summer time often means vacations and travel with your family. Make sure you check out www.unionplus.org for discounts on hotels, car rentals, theme park tickets, and more, exclusively for union members!

I hope you all have a safe and happy summer.

In solidarity,

Kathleen Hernandez
CWA Local 1031 President