



TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 1205

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

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September 19, 2014

Dear Baumann employees / Local 1205 members—

I'm glad to greet each of you this new school year! And I hope everyone has received their 1st of September Union contract wage increase.

Everyone should also have received their Labor Day holiday pay; however, we've already heard that Baumann did not pay a large number of employees this holiday, and has improperly paid many other employees this pay. As to the improper pay, Baumann has not paid for the total package hours, but just the minimum hours. We've filed a class action grievance on behalf of every employee who is owed the Labor Day holiday and every employee owed additional Labor Day holiday pay. Meanwhile, if you are one the employees who has not been given your proper holiday pay, be sure to tell your Union Shop Steward or Representative as soon as possible.

Every year, Baumann has made it his practice to underpay numerous employees, with the hope that many won't bother requesting the wages they're owed be given to them. Multiply those wages by hundreds of workers—and on a regular basis many, many thousands of dollars in wages are being stolen! We are working hard to prevent this from happening and we are glad so many of you rightfully protest Baumann's ugly scheme!

As we begin this year, it's important to point out that your September 1st wage increase is your 5th since our Union contract increases began 4 years ago. That is in addition to the many contract-mandated anniversary date increases due several hundred employees during the same time period. This represents an average wage increase in that period of over 20%! That's right: the average Baumann employee is earning more than 20% today than in August 2010, just four years ago. (Some got a little less, many got a lot more!) This fact is particularly important when people remember just how hard Baumann fought your right to have a Union at all, and when one considers the fact that—according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics—the average wages of all workers in the United States during that same time period have fallen by over 8%!

Meanwhile, we know each of you deserves more: including higher wages, better guarantees, improved working conditions! As we prepare for our contract negotiations this winter, we will certainly have that fact clearly and specifically spelled out in our contract proposals: *more economic justice and better working conditions!*

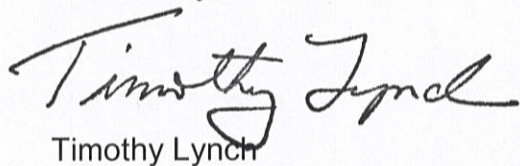
We have been getting back many of the recently distributed Union contract surveys, and I'm glad to say we've been given lots of great ideas! Meanwhile, we have not yet received responses from everyone. So if you simply haven't found the time to fill out the survey form and return it to your Union Representative, please do so as soon as you can. Or if you've misplaced your survey, don't hesitate to ask for another one. (And we'll be happy to assist you with the form in any way if you need help.) The more everyone knows about how negotiations work, and how everyone can participate in some way, the greater is our ability to make large improvements in your working conditions. People need to know and remember the following great fact: our strength comes from our unity, from our respecting and supporting one another. The more we stand together as one, working for justice—and against our enemies (both within and without)—the stronger and more effective we will be at the bargaining table with Baumann and his high paid lawyers.

I'm glad to hear that more and more of you are getting excited as we look toward 2015 and our goal of greater economic justice at Baumann.

I can't say it often enough: If we work together we can achieve what we cannot achieve separately—greater fairness on the job and more money in your pocket!

I look forward to seeing you at our monthly Union meetings and at your job sites.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy Lynch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Timothy Lynch

President Teamsters Local 1205

P.S. Our next general membership meeting is Wednesday, September 24th, at 1 Morton Street in Farmingdale. We start at 7 pm. Please come!