



Greetings Union Family,

I hope you and your families are in good health and spirits. I am writing to you to announce my candidacy for CWA District 6 Vice President and to ask for your support.

My Story

I've shared the story of my father, Henry Osobase, with many of you. My father immigrated from Lagos, Nigeria to Kingsville, TX in 1975. He met my mom, Gloria, in 1976 and got married in Corpus Christi, TX. My parents later went on to have me, and even adopt a cousin after a family member fell on difficult times.

When my father came to Corpus Christi, the only job he could find at the time was digging sanitation ditches, after he had to leave college to take care of me and my mom. The job was dangerous. The job was dirty. His hours were long and protective equipment was minimal. Although my father was always a man of great dignity, I distinctly remember him coming home and having to peel off his clothes. Those memories never leave me. Later my father went on to getting a trade in welding and ultimately retired as superintendent. He and my mother remained married for 43 years until his passing in June of last year. So many of you supported me in that very difficult time.

It was through my father that I learned the lesson of hard work, responsibility, commitment and character. It was also through him that I learned it should not have to be so damn hard to provide a good life for one's family. It is this simple motivation that moves me to fight for CWA members from the shop floor to state capitals across our District.

My Experience and Vision

Over the last 17 years, I have been committed to building CWA's influence and power throughout District 6. In the District, I've been tested by and jointly built power with the best of our local leaders and activists. We've worked together to seed and grow the most comprehensive membership and political activist programs in CWA. These programs have strengthened our union, developed skilled and strategic leaders in our locals, and prepared us for key fights in both the public and private sector.

I firmly believe our success as a union is directly linked to our ability to engage and build a sense of collective struggle with our members. It is that collective struggle that gives



us the ability to build power and win. Despite the great success of our efforts, we still have a lot more work to do. That is why I am running for Vice President of District 6.

As District 6 Administrative Director of Organizing, Politics, and Mobilization I've had the opportunity to lead our bargaining strategy in contracts with employees at Apple, Las Americas, and paraprofessionals in Lawrence, KS. Under my leadership, staff also coordinated the AT&T Mobility contract mobilization plans. We built our Unity@Mobility program through intensive activist development, years of training and organizing to come together and apply pressure to the company which put us in a position to make significant progress on that contract.

My Commitment

If given the honor to serve as your Vice President, I commit to working with our local leaders to:

1. Grow our District by organizing new units and specifically targeting the telecommunication industry.
2. Continue to strengthen our mobilization structure to put us in the best position to win better contracts.
3. Invest in the development of future leaders' representation, political and organizing skills.
4. Expand modes of communication with locals across the District to ensure we have the right information to make the right decisions.
5. Hold elected officials accountable for their commitments, actions or inaction on key issues that impact our members. This includes strategically targeting primary races.
6. Invest in existing relationships and form new ones with community groups and locally-based campaigns that raise conditions and protections for all workers.

I'm so proud of the work that we've done over the years to develop more rank-and-file members, stronger locals and programs that make CWA a powerful union.

My Ask

I ask for your consideration, support and endorsement of my candidacy for CWA District 6 Vice President to continue our work together. You can reach me on my personal phone at 702-885-3939. I'm looking forward to speaking with all of you over the next few months about the opportunities we have to build a stronger District and Union together.

In Solidarity,

Derrick Osobase