



THE FINISHER

HAWAII'S CHOICE TO FINISH THE JOB!

JUNE 2025



DC50 Community Day of Action Aids RYSE
(See page 3)



By Ryden Valmoja
DC50 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

State of the Council

**“Wishing you all the best
this summer – Enjoy and
keep safe out there!”**

Aloha Brothers and Sisters! I hope that your summer is off to a great start! Please allow me to provide you with an update on the state of our District Council.

Every five years, the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) convenes its General Convention to elect General Officers and address committee reports, credentials, rules, appeals, and resolutions. Following the convention, each District Council is responsible for amending its bylaws to align with the updated International Constitution. All Local Union Bylaws must also be amended accordingly.

I am pleased to report that the DC50 Bylaws were adopted by the membership and subsequently approved by the IUPAT General Executive Board on May 28, 2025.

The Local Union Bylaws will be presented for a membership vote on the dates listed below.

OAHU

- Monday, July 14, 2025, 6:00 am - 5:00 pm, District Council 50, 2240 Young St. Honolulu, HI 96826

MAUI

- Monday, July 14, 2025, 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm, UH, Maui College Solar Panel Parking Lot, 310 Kaahumanu Ave. Kahului, HI 96732

HILO, HAWAII

- Tuesday, July 15, 2025, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm, HGEA Hall, 495 Manono St. Hilo, HI 96720

KAILUA-KONA, HI

- Tuesday, July 15, 2025, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm, Pine Tree Café Parking Lot, 73-4040 Hulikoa Dr., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

KAUAI

- Tuesday, July 15, 2025, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm, HGEA Hall, Parking Lot, 3213 Akahi St. Lihue, HI 96766

Ahead of the voting, I want to highlight some of the key amendments that have been made:

Updated Language: Adds ministerial language to conform with the International Constitution.

CORE Committee Representation: The Chairs of officially recognized CORE Committees (such as the Women's Committee, LGBTQ Committee, Young Workers Committee, etc.) will now attend the General Convention as non-voting delegates.

Trustee Compensation: Trustees who conduct quarterly audits will now receive a check in the amount of \$100 for each completed audit.

Section Numbering: Sections have been re-numbered and re-organized for clarity and consistency.

Dues Clarification: The Bylaws clearly outlines per capita tax, administrative dues, and due dates for quarterly payments.

Political Action Dues: The IUPAT Political Action dues have been removed, but the Local Union Political Action dues remain unchanged.

You should have already received a draft of the updated Bylaws for your review. If you have any questions or need clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any Business Representative.

Hawaii Job Corps

Our International Union recognizes the vital role that Job Corps plays in supporting our communities. Over the years, many students have successfully completed the program and have built meaningful careers in the painting industry. Unfortunately, the current administration has directed the Department of Labor to pause operations at Job Corps facilities here in Hawaii and across the country. This decision has created uncertainty for both students and staff, putting futures at risk.

We urge you to take a moment to support this important program by contacting our Hawaii Congressional delegation. Let them know

Continued on Page 3.



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International Union of Painters
and Allied Trades

District Council 50

2240 Young Street • Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: (808) 941-0991

Ryden Valmoja

Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

John D. Frigillana, Jr.

President

Robin Schlitzkus

Vice President

Angelo Canionero, Jr.

Trustee Chair

Ikaika Lacson

Trustee

Casey Nihipali

Trustee

Kurt Nishimura

Trustee

www.dc50.org

On the Cover...



On April 26, 2025, the IUPAT DC50 Community Day of Action focused efforts on Residential Youth Services and Empowerment (RYSE), an organization dedicated to serving houseless youth. Apprentice painters, volunteers, and staff came together to beautify the RYSE campus by repainting picnic benches, interior hallways, and bedrooms. This enhanced the environment for the residents and staff.

Then, on May 10, more than 80 DC50 members and their families turned out for the National Association of Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive at the Hawaii Foodbank. Our team was busy building boxes, sorting food, and packing donations. The volume of food collected was outstanding! A huge mahalo to everyone who helped—your dedication made the day a great success. 🙏

State of the Council

Continued from Page 2.



that Job Corps Hawaii is essential as it gives our challenged youth a real chance at success through education programs, job training, and career opportunities. Mahalo for standing with us!

- US Senator Mazie Hirono 808-522-8970
- US Senator Brian Schatz 808-523-2061
- US Representative Ed Case 808-225-2726
- US Representative Jill Tokuda 808-746-6220

Hawaii Island Apprenticeship Program

After many years of planning, I am pleased to share that the Painters Apprenticeship Program on Hawaii island officially began. Under the instruction of Po'okela Banis-Chun, our members will receive training, certification and hands on learning. A huge "Mahalo" to Kaipo Dye, Coordinator for the Apprenticeship and Outreach Education at Hawaii Community College for his support and collaboration in helping our union reach this long-standing goal. (See Apprenticeship Program in Hilo, page 5.)

DC50 Gives Back

During the first half of 2025, DC50 members and volunteers have been actively engaged in giveback efforts across the state, offering their time, energy, and expertise to support local communities.



One of the major highlights was the AFL-CIO's Labor of Love project, which selected Pahoehoe High and Intermediate School as this year's recipient. Volunteers from various trades transformed the campus by installing walkway pavers, concrete slabs, new picnic tables and benches, as well as water fountains and bottle-filling stations. DC50 re-stripped and repainted the parking lot and curbing throughout the campus.

Looking ahead, please join us at the upcoming Oahu Labor Unity Picnic, scheduled for Sunday, August 31, 2025 at the Waikiki Shell. Details for Labor Day events on the neighboring islands are still pending. Once that information is available, I will be sure to pass it along to all of you.

These days there are many changes taking place across our country, but I'm happy to report that job opportunities remain strong. With that in mind, DC50 continues to actively recruit and grow our union to meet the demands of the workforce. If you know someone who might be interested in joining us, please have them call the union hall at 808-941-0991. We're always looking for good people to join our team. 🙏

Ryden Delgado

Hilton Waikoloa Village Palace Tower

Through the years, the Hilton Waikoloa Village has consistently invested in renovations and maintenance of the hotel to assure that their guests enjoy a great experience when they visit. For District Council 50 trades, these renovations and maintenance projects create jobs for our members. The Palace Tower Exterior Painting is one of the upcoming projects to maintain the quality that guests can appreciate.

Alii Nui Construction is doing this project with members from the Big Island. While sunny weather is great for visiting guests, it takes a toll on the building, and that is where our members work will be showcased to keep up to Hilton standards. Workers will prep, prime and paint the finish coats on the Palace Tower. This will keep the painters on the Big Island working for a while.



Members on the Big Island have been working steady hours with projects like this for the hospitality industry. Members take pride in transforming the building to finished product that guests are sure to enjoy. 🧑‍🔧

Floor Layers Report

Aloha! We are halfway through 2025 and the floor layers have been very busy working on projects such as Dave & Buster's Ala Moana Shopping Center, Halawa View apartments, Ala Moana Hotel, The Park Ward Village Block H, Ulana, Parkway Village at Kapolei, Honouliuli Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Moana Surfrider, amongst others.

On the Big Island, projects include Pahoa Intermediate and High School, and the Hilton Waikoloa Village. Central Pacific Bank and Coco Palms on Kauai, and the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters on Maui are some of the jobs that continue to provide us work in 2025.

Most of these jobs consist of installing LVP (luxury vinyl planks) and pattern carpet. If you need to brush up on your installation skills for these materials, please contact your business representative or your training coordinator. The new Joseph Bazemore Training

Political Department Report

The 2025 Legislative Session ended on May 2, 2025. This Session, the Political Department was successful in passing or defeating bills that could affect our members. The Political Department worked on the following notable bills:

- We supported the passage of House Bill 692, which expands the State's pre-kindergarten program known as the Preschool Open Doors (PODS) program. PODS will now begin accepting children as young as two years old and will allow working class people like us to participate in the program. These changes will help our members with young children – especially our working mother members – who may no longer have to choose between work or caring for their young children.
- We supported passage of the controversial House Bill 897, which helped HECO increase its credit rating. When HECO raises its credit rating, it lowers its cost of borrowing to mitigate the risk of future wildfires. This, in turn, benefits ratepayers, who will end up paying less than they otherwise would for the mitigation work. House Bill 897 is already working, as less than one month after passage of the bill, one of the three major credit ratings agencies upgraded HECO's credit rating.

Both HECO and IBEW Local 1260 were grateful for our assistance in passing House Bill 897 and have contacted us to work on a project labor agreement to help us get work for our members on HECO's future renewable energy construction projects.

- We successfully opposed House Bill 1155, which would have given the State Department of Transportation a way to avoid the normal procurement law. The procurement law protects our signatory contractors and, thus, our members' jobs. While we are all for expediting construction projects, we must be vigilant in ensuring that we do so in a way that does not jeopardize work for our members.

Unfortunately, this Session was not a complete success. A bill that would have guaranteed us the same rights we have to unionize under federal law did not pass. This is a concern because any loss of our rights on the federal level, which is a very real threat under the Trump Administration, would leave us in limbo in Hawaii.

Also, we were unable to pass a bill that would have allowed us to collect unemployment insurance if we were to go on strike. Some states on the mainland already have laws like this in place, and more states like Oregon and Washington have recently adopted such laws. We will work on these measures again next year and, with your support, we will continue the fight to protect and to strengthen our legal rights as union members and construction workers. 🧑‍🔧

Center at the hall is dedicated to enhancing your skills.

Overall, this is looking to be another lucrative year full of big jobs. Please work safely and make sure that you update all of your certifications. Safety is our number one priority!

In addition, please attend our monthly membership meeting to keep up-to-date in the flooring industry. 🧑‍🔧



Pu'uhona Subdivision Maui

The Pu'uhona Subdivision housing project developed by Everett Dowling and contracted to Hawaiian Dredging is a residential housing project on Maui that represents a vital step towards meeting the island's housing needs while supporting local workers and families.

A key aspect of Pu'uhona's success is the use of signatory companies, which ensures high-quality craftsmanship, fair labor practices, and community investment. Two standout contributors to the project are Island Creation, responsible for the expert taping work, and WE Painting, which is handling the painting with precision and professionalism. Both companies are proud members of District Council 50 and reflect a commitment to union values and standards.



Utilizing union signatory companies brings more than just skilled labor; it brings stability and dignity to the workforce. Union workers benefit from comprehensive health coverage, retirement plans, and job security, which are all essential for supporting families and building strong communities.

By choosing a union majority workforce, the Pu'uhona Subdivision development stands as a powerful example of how construction can uplift both people and places. It's a model of how collaboration between developers and union trades can create lasting value for Maui residents. 🧑‍🔧



Union Strong!

The Training Department has joined in rallies against the current U.S. President's controversial policies on topics ranging from immigration to keeping his hands off of unions.

We always encourage our rank-and-file members to support their unions and to show pride in belonging to a union that takes care of them and their families. A safe job is a right, not a privilege, and our union can be a powerful force in our industry. We will continue to bring dignity and a living wage to union workers.

On April 5, members of the Tapers Union showed support for the Hands-Off protest. It was amazing to see the support from all the other unions, retired union members, and family members of active union workers. On April 17, two Taper Apprentices fronting the federal building along with union staff showed support for Kilmar Garcia, who was illegally deported from the U.S. and imprisoned in El Salvador without a trial.

While it's hard for anyone to take time out of our busy lives, please consider that a few hours can really make a difference. 🧑‍🔧



Discovery Land Company, Maui

The Discovery Land Company, a renowned developer of luxury residential communities, has significantly transformed the landscape of Makena, Maui through the establishment of the Makena Golf & Beach Club. Situated on 1,800 acres of pristine coastal and upland terrain, this private community offers an array of upscale residences, including beach cottages, hillside villas and custom homes.

Through a number of conversations and meetings with the lead-



ership of the Discovery Land Company, we are honored to be able to partner with them on this upcoming project. Though Discovery Land has always been a great ally in hiring several of our signatory contractors from our respected crafts – they now would like to self-perform their interior drywall taping. That being said, DC50 is proud to announce that we are in the final stages of contract agreements.

As with all projects there may be some delays and a few bumps in the road, but currently this portion of the project is expected to start as soon as July 2025. Until the job starts, the total manpower needs for the drywall finish is currently undetermined, but we are excited that Discovery will again be using our floor layers, glaziers and painting signatories as well. 🧑‍🔧

Painters and Tapers Apprenticeship Program in Hilo

Hilo, Hawaii, is set to enhance its construction industry by introducing a dedicated Painters and Tapers Apprenticeship Program. This initiative aims to provide aspiring tradespeople with structured training – combining on-the-job experience with classroom instruction to meet the growing demand for skilled labor.

The apprenticeship program offers participants the opportunity to engage in practical work under the guidance of experienced professionals while attending classes to understand the theoretical aspects of painting and taping. This dual approach ensures that apprentices gain comprehensive knowledge and hands-on experience, preparing them for successful careers in the construction industry. 🧑‍🔧

Tapers: Affirmative Action & Women in Construction

District Council 50 Drywall Tapers Union is expanding opportunities to recruit more women into the trade. As it is, the Tapers Union has succeeded in breaking barriers by providing equal pay for women who join its apprentice program. The women that apply want good benefits for their families, good pay, a good retirement nest egg, and a career that they accomplished on their own with the great training that is provided.

With the cooperation of the signatory contractors, the union has been able to secure work for incoming apprentices and fulfill

More women are challenging the stigma that had kept them from pursuing careers in the construction industry. This comes at a time when the labor market is at its all-time low. Most of the construction trades are actively looking for eligible applicants that have their required high school diploma or GED equivalent and driver's license. They must also pass a stress test and a drug screening. We emphasize to our contractors that all of our members are drug free, which is a priority selling point.

Contractors foresee construction to remain busy for at least the next four to five years, so this is a good time to invest the time and energy into a life-rewarding trade. Many women are amongst those seeking this opportunity. They are filling the gaps that have been growing with many Baby Boomers retiring from the construction industry. There is no limit to what women can achieve.

The IUPAT is a strong advocate of open opportunities. It holds conferences and gather women from around the United States to join in. District Council 50 also offers women many opportunities: "Our women members lift up our union, our communities, and their families." 🙌

Stay Safe this Summer: Beat the Heat on the Job

Summer is almost here — officially kicking off on June 21 — and anyone who works outside in Hawaii knows the heat doesn't wait for the calendar. The sun's already blazing, the humidity's rising, and job sites across the islands are heating up fast. Whether you're taping, painting, glazing, or laying floors, working in this kind of heat takes a toll. The last thing we want is a good union brother or sister going down from heat exhaustion — or worse.

Here are a few solid tips to help you stay safe and healthy on the job this summer:

1. Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate.
Don't wait until you're thirsty. Drink water all day — not energy drinks, not soda. Keep a bottle or jug with you and sip often. Add some electrolytes if you're sweating heavy.
2. Know the signs of heat stress.
Headaches, dizziness, cramps, and confusion can be signs you're overheating. Don't try to tough it out. Step into the shade, cool down, and speak up if a coworker looks off.
3. Wear the right gear.
Lightweight, breathable clothing, a hat, and sunblock can make a big difference. Some trades require full PPE, so take your breaks seriously and cool off when you can.
4. Use your breaks smart.
Don't spend your whole break in the sun. Find shade, take off your gloves or hard hat to cool off, and give your body a real rest. That's what breaks are for.

Watch out for each other.

Union means having each other's backs. If you see someone pushing too hard or looking run down, check in. Sometimes we don't notice we're in trouble until someone else does.

Let's keep our crews strong, safe, and hydrated. We can't build Hawaii without healthy hands. Stay cool out there. 🙌



affirmative action guidelines. The IUPAT provides anti-bias training through its FTI, which gives them the skills and knowledge needed in their respective trades. Training instructors also attend the courses within their trade.

Train the Trainer: First Aid/CPR

The “Train the Trainer” First Aid/CPR course was successfully conducted May 6-9 at the District Council 50 facility. With an emphasis on hands-on training, communication techniques, and up-to-date emergency response guidelines, this course was designed to certify instructors who will go on to teach First Aid and CPR to others.

Participants received training in adult, child, and infant CPR, choking response, AED operation, bleeding control, and basic wound care. In addition to technical skills, the course focused on effective instructional methods, classroom management, and scenario-based learning.

All attendees demonstrated proficiency in both life-saving techniques and teaching strategies. Upon completion, each participant received a certification as an authorized First Aid/CPR instructor

qualified to lead community and workplace training sessions.

This initiative strengthens our safety culture and increases our capacity to provide life-saving education across various settings. 🧤



Welcome Back Coalition Glass!

Glaziers Union LU1889 welcomes Coalition Glass back to Hawaii as it takes on the glazing work for the highly anticipated Alia Ward Village project in Kakaako. The project, which is set to ramp up to full strength with approximately 50 union glaziers by October 2025, marks Coalition's return to Hawaii, where it will build on its legacy of quality, precision, and union craftsmanship.

Coalition Glass is currently in the early stages of the project, installing embeds as they prepare for a major ramp-up in manpower. The glazing work is scheduled to continue through January 2027, making this one of the larger and more sustained glazing efforts in the state over the next two years.



Leading Coalition Glass field operations is longtime union glazier Phil Skalecki, Executive Vice President of Field Operations. Hawaii glaziers may remember Phil from 2016, when he served as Field Superintendent for Enclos and oversaw the prestigious Park Lane Ala Moana project. Coalition Glass, a DBA of Enclos, brings with it that same level of excellence and industry leadership.

Phil began his glazing career in 1995 as a union glazier and has since established himself as a trusted leader in the industry. He is also a co-founder of Coalition Glass and currently serves on Enclos' Executive Safety Council, emphasizing his strong commitment to both craftsmanship and safety on every jobsite.

Over the years, Phil has played a critical role in delivering some of the most complex and iconic glazing projects across the U.S., including:

- Allegiant Stadium (Las Vegas)
- Circa/18 Fremont
- Oceanwide Plaza (Los Angeles)
- Frost Tower (San Antonio)
- Encore, Wynn, and Planet Hollywood Hotels & Casinos
- Trump Hotel (Las Vegas)
- Nashville Music City Center
- McCarran International Terminal 3
- 680 Folsom (San Francisco)
- Palms Resort (Las Vegas)

Phil's return to the islands is more than a homecoming—it's a continuation of the high-level collaboration between Local 1889 and national glazing leadership.

Coalition Glass' involvement in Alia Ward Village ensures not only world-class installation but also solid union jobs for our local workforce. With a team that understands both the technical complexities of modern façade systems and the value of union partnership, the Alia project is in good hands.

Welcome back, Coalition Glass and mahalo to Phil Skalecki for continuing to bring high standards and opportunities to Hawaii's glazing community. 🧤

Leonardo Villanueva Honored for Perfect Attendance During Floor Layer Apprenticeship

Leonardo Villanueva, a dedicated floor layer apprentice, achieved a remarkable milestone by maintaining perfect attendance over the course of eight semesters, totaling 640 hours of classroom instruction. Enrolled in the Floor Layer Apprenticeship Program, Leonardo demonstrated exceptional commitment and professionalism throughout his training. The program is designed to develop skilled tradespeople through a combination of hands-on experience and classroom learning, and demands consistent effort and reliability.

Achieving perfect attendance over such a rigorous curriculum is rare and speaks volumes about Leonardo's work ethic and passion for the trade. He sets the standard for what we hope to see in every apprentice — his dedication, punctuality, and positive attitude make him a role model for others in the program.

In addition to his impeccable attendance record, Leonardo has consistently received high marks for both technical skill and teamwork on job sites. As he is nearing completion of the program, Leonardo looks forward to continuing his career in the flooring industry. With his proven track record of reliability and excellence, he is well-positioned for success. 🧤





International Union of
Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 50
2240 Young Street
Honolulu, HI 96826



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Wanted: Please submit news clips, photos and articles on special events to: Lwoo@dc50.org

District Council 50 Meetings

- District Council 50 Membership meeting – Saturday, July 26, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. at the DC50 Hall and via Zoom video conference.
- Young Lions Committee meetings – Friday, January 17, 2025; Friday, April 18, 2025; Friday, July 18, 2025; and Friday, October 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at the DC50 hall and via Zoom video conference.
- Women's Committee meetings – Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.; and December 13, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., at the DC50 Hall and via Zoom Video Conference.

SPECIALTY WORKERS LOCAL UNION 1941

- Membership meetings – Second Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m., at the DC50 hall and via Zoom

PAINTERS LOCAL UNION 1791

- Membership meetings – Third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m., at the DC50 hall and via Zoom

DRYWALL TAPERS FINISHERS LOCAL UNION 1944

- Membership meetings – Second Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., at the DC50 hall and via Zoom

GLAZIERS, ARCHITECTURAL METAL AND GLASSWORKERS LOCAL UNION 1889

- Executive Board meetings – Second to the last Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., at the DC50 hall and via Zoom
- Membership meetings – Last Thursday of the month at 4:45 p.m., at the DC50 hall and via Zoom

CARPET, LINOLEUM AND SOFT TILE LOCAL UNION 1926

- Membership meetings – Third Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., at the DC50 hall and via Zoom

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY:

7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY:

7:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

District Council 50

Painters - LU1791	808-941-0991
Tapers - LU1944	808-946-6621
Glaziers - LU1889	808-946-3329
Floor Layers - LU1926	808-942-3988
SpecialtyWorkers-LU1941	808-941-0991
Toll-Free Neighbor Island	888-811-4020

DC 50 Joint Apprenticeship Training
808-947-6606
808-941-0991, Option 2

IN MEMORIAM

CARL "BUDDY" WIDEMANN, FORMER MEMBER OF PAINTERS LU1791
STANLEY YONEDA, FORMER MEMBER OF THE FLOOR LAYERS LU1926