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Dear CBTU Family and Friends,

This is the official convention call for the 54th International Convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU). We are pleased to announce that we will be returning to the Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace at 1900 E Buena Vista Dr, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830 from May 20-26, 2025. This year our theme is **"Preserving and Building on Our Legacy: Unbought, Unbowed, Unstoppable."** All general convention sessions will be held at the Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace.

Now, more than ever it is imperative that we meet and gather to address both the existential and tangible threats we face as unionists and people of color. The new administration and their policies have put our careers and our movement in jeopardy. The international landscape has shifted, as once traditional allies now view this nation as hostile and untrustworthy. Programs once developed to address centuries of racial injustice have not only been ended, but countermeasures to claw back our gains have been deployed and empowered. Now, more than ever, do we need to congregate and commiserate on the ways we organize and mobilize. The future of our movement and our industries hangs in balance.

To register for the convention please go to <https://convention.cbtu.info/>.

All convention information will be on that site. You will also find the hotel link on this site. You must complete all required fields in order to proceed. When you have completed the registration form an invoice will be sent within 24 hours to complete the payment portion.

All who register for the convention will also have access to our new site CBTUPLUS. As we modernize and advance this organization so does the opportunities and access to our members. We will continue to provide current and past information and conventions on CBTUPLUS as it serves as our digital resource and pragmatic hub. You will receive an email with instructions to access the CBTUPLUS site within 24 hours after completing the payment portion of registration. CBTUPLUS will be available for purchase at the CBTU store for anyone not attending the convention.

This will be our first convention without the stewardship of President Emeritus William "Bill" Lucy. We will be honoring his legacy and memory at the convention in both presentation and in spirit. It is his heart and passion that build this great organization, and we will be tapping into that same energy this year – to uphold his deeds and his vision. It would be an honor to have you join us.

See you in Orlando!

In solidarity,

Rev. Terrence L. Melvin, President