

SUFFOLK COUNTY COURT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Delegates Meeting

Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown Bypass

Hauppauge, NY 11788

October 10th, 2025

1. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

- a. Moment of Silence

2. ROLL CALL

- a. The Executive Board, comprised of Mr. John Tufarella (President), Mr. Raymond Trezza (1st Vice-President), Ms. Linda Scio (2nd Vice President), Mr. Eric Laskowski (Secretary Treasurer), and Ms. Danielle L. Vios (Recording Secretary) is PRESENT.
- b. 28 Delegates PRESENT / 3 Delegates EXCUSED

3. READING OF THE PRIOR MINUTES

- a. Motion To Waive

4. TREASURE'S REPORT – as of 10/10/2025

***given by new Secretary Treasurer Eric Laskowski**

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| a. Union Account | \$101,714.30 |
| b. Welfare Account | \$425,272.82 |
| c. PAC Fund | \$9,331.52 |
| d. Scholarship Fund | \$72,947.70 |
| e. Union Investments | \$5,017,376.17 *approx |
| f. Union Investments | \$331,259.79 *approx |

5. SICK LEAVE BANK

- a. The Current SLB balance is approximately 50,110 hours.
- b. We have not asked for contributions from the current members in almost 10yrs. Since 2020, nearly 20,000 have been used, which is why retired SCCEA President Gwinn felt it was necessary to return to the contractually agreed upon yearly contributions of 3hrs from the membership this past April.

- c. The only **yearly** SLB contributions have come from NEW employees (21hrs), new Transfers (14hrs), and Transfers that have once been employees of SCCEA that had promoted out of County & have transferred back (3hrs)
- d. SLB contributions also come from retirees who retire with over 1400hrs of accrued and unused Sick Leave Credits.
- e. Delegate Annette Lambraia inquired if SLB is determined by Grade to which President Tufarella explained the SLB is granted Hour for Hour equally for all members no matter what titles.
- f. Delegate Samantha Jaccard inquired as to how they determine the SLB is granted. President Tufarella explained that it had been believed that it was THREE (3) people (SCCEA President, Ken Carson & Lauren Baer) who together made that determination with the best (2) of the (3) had the final decision on the approval of SLB. However, we have come to find this April the President has the FINAL decision on the granting of SLB.
- g. Since April there have been (3) SLB denials for various reasons. There are **MANY** things considered before approving SLB.
- h. President Tufarella has yet to decide if we are going to be taking the contractual contributions this April. The minimum that would be taken would be 2hrs/member. However as it stands now we are in good shape with the amount of hours we have.
- i. Delegate Michael Parisi inquired about trying to get more Light Duty Posts for longer duration of time for the Court Officers in each Command. This needs to be discussed further at Contract Negotiations.

6. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- a. We currently have (6) outstanding. There have been (6) settled since April.
- b. Disciplinary Actions can stem from things as simple as a conversation had between 2 people about Religion, Politics, Race, etc.
- c. Everyone has had OCA mandated Bias and Harassment Training, so please be mindful of your surroundings and respectful of your coworkers.
- d. Disciplinary Actions can be lengthy and very costly investigations. One of the Unions' most costly expense is the Attorney fees for Disciplinary Actions.

7. GRIEVANCES

- a. **8/26/2021 - Contractual Grievance - Vaccination Mandate**
Still tied up in PERB.

8. LEGISLATION

- a. Tier 6 is ALWAYS being worked on. There have been some benefit improvements made such as the 5yr Vesting, Pensionable Overtime, and FAS from 5yrs to 3yrs.
- b. Every year bills are submitted for 30/55 for Tier 6, but they have not been successful. Further reforms are being sought to improve Tier 6 and make it comparable to those earlier Tiers. However, Tier 6 makes up a large portion of the workforce, making this very costly.
- c. Delegate Kerri Lechtrecker had inquired if there were any talks about a possible Incentive for Tier 4 employees. President Tufarella stated he had heard nothing at this time.
- d. Delegates Michael Parisi and Daniel Rapisarda had both inquired about the PAC Fund and how it is beneficial to the new employees to contribute to it. President Tufarella had explained that members need to understand that it is not to back any certain party. If our Lobbyist informs us that we need to show support for something in order to further our position with a certain bill that will help our members, then that is what the PAC Fund is for.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **SCCEA General Membership Meeting 10/16/2025** – The General Membership Meeting will be at 5th District Court in Ronkonkoma.
FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED
- b. **SCCEA Health & Wellness Fair 10/29/2025** – Will be in Central Islip on the 2nd Floor walkway between District Court & Supreme Court
- c. **Flu Shots in County Court 10/30/2025** – 3rd Floor Training Room
- d. **SCCEA Dinner Dance** – Honoring Major Tony Mung as Person of the Year. Among the many reasons we are honoring him, he makes the wooden flags for the retirees free of charge & will only accept donations to the NYSCOA Widows & Children's Fund. In lieu of favors for the dinner, we are donating to the fund as well.

e. **President Tufarella opened the floor for questions/comments...**

****Discussions** were had amongst the Delegates and Executive Board related to various issues including Staffing levels & how they determine which lines get covered; New Employee Orientation; Time and Leave Issues; Delegate Participation in informal Counseling Sessions.

Contract Negotiations – Technically we could start NOW since October is (6) months before the expiration of the contract. However, OCA has not shown any indication they are ready to start negotiating.

Negotiation Committee – The Committee will be voted on **at a meeting** Many issues were discussed as far as things that need to be brought up in negotiations: Attorney Registration Fees and Court Reporter Maintenance.

10. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

MEETING ADJOURNED