

SUFFOLK COUNTY COURT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

Plumber's Local #200 Union Hall

2123 5th Avenue, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

April 21st, 2026

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. James Vergano (Secretary Treasurer), and Ms. Danielle L. Vios (Recording Secretary) is PRESENT.
- b. 27 Delegates PRESENT / 5 Delegates EXCUSED

3. READING OF THE PRIOR MINUTES

- a. Motion To Waive

****There is a brief presentation by Island Federal Bank for the Members and a brochure is included in the minutes****

4. TREASURE'S REPORT – as of 04/17/2026

***given by new Secretary Treasurer James Vergano**

- a. Union Account \$126,921.75
- b. Welfare Account \$340,013.79
- c. PAC Fund \$11,829.81
- d. Scholarship Fund \$83,378.73 (approx. after full payment for the Top Golf Fundraiser Event & (2) deposits for the SCCEA Dinner 2026 & 2027)
- e. Union Investments \$5,332,738.31 *approx
- f. Union Investments \$361,243.03 *approx.

*President Tufarella explained the next quarterly payment of \$584,056.25 from the State is on hold with the current budget.

5. SICK LEAVE BANK

- a. The Current SLB balance is approximately 62,262.44 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 from the membership April 2025.
- 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. President Tufarella explained during the Delegate Meeting more in depth 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 in April 2025 the President has the FINAL decision on the granting of SLB.
- f. Since last April there have been multiple SLB denials for various reasons. There are **MANY** things considered before approving SLB.
- g. President Tufarella has decided to NOT take the contractual contributions this April. Contractually we can take up to 7hrs every year from each member for the SLB. *Delegate Annette Lambraia inquired if we could change the contractual agreement to lower the minimum to (1) hour.
- h. President Tufarella explained that Suffolk County is the ONLY Union to not take the contractual yearly SLB deductions.
- i. President Tufarella explained Lauren Baer (one of the three on the SLB Approval Panel) is the only one that can look into an employee's Kronos. We do not have access to a member's Kronos, nor can we discuss the member's personal/medical issue with Supervisors as it is a HIPAA Violation.
- j. President Tufarella touched on something Delegate Michael Parisi brought up at the Delegate Meeting regarding the possibility of negotiating New Hires getting at least a 2yr window for future contributions from their start date.

6. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- a. We were down to (1) outstanding. Now we are back up to (5).

- b. We try to settle as many as we can rather than put fate in the hands of OCA. We have seen offers range from Probation to Forfeiture of Time.
- c. The biggest expense we have are the attorney fees for disciplinaries. They can be very lengthy and costly investigations.
- d. Social Media can also be a problem... be mindful of what you post as anonymous complaints can spark costly investigations.
- e. Disciplinary Actions can stem from things as simple as a conversation had between 2 people about Religion, Politics, Race, etc.
- f. Everyone has had OCA mandated Bias and Harassment Training, so please be mindful of your surroundings and respectful of your coworkers.

7. GRIEVANCES

- a. **8/26/2021 - Contractual Grievance - Vaccination Mandate**
Still tied up in PERB. *Delegate Annette Lambraia inquired what is keeping this tied up in litigation for so long. President Tufarella explained all parties are not in agreement to the settlement at this time.
- b. **Non Contractual Employee Grievance** – Currently at Step 2. OCA has until May 4th to respond. This Grievance stems from a promotion not being done correctly, and we are hoping to remedy that.

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.
- c. Discussions were had about the PAC Fund and how it is beneficial not only to the new employees to contribute to it, but ALL employees as well. President Tufarella had explained that members need to understand that it is not to back any certain party, it does not matter the political affiliation. 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. President Tufarella explains that the PAC Fund is basically used to help advance our causes in Albany.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

a. **SCCEA Top Golf Fundraising Event 04/27/2026** – We encourage Members to attend and participate

b. **SCCEA Dinner Dance 11/10/2026** – New Venue **Villa Lombardi's**

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

****Discussions were had relating to various issues including Sick Leave Bank usage, approvals and contributions; Cancer Screening Time included in Contract Negotiations; Issue with the Family Medical Insurance Rates and can they be negotiated; Blood Donations not being held in Riverhead; Questions about how the PayScale works; Questions about the Probationary Period for new employees and how it is calculated; Attorney Registration Fees; Court Attorney Lines in comparison to Support Magistrates; Court Reporter Page Rates; and wishing well to Delegate Kerri Lechtrecker on her 34yrs of service & congratulating her on her retirement!!!**

****SCHOLARHIPS & RAFFLES WERE DRAWN****

****Nominations were held for the Negotiation Committee****

10. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

MEETING ADJOURNED

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

<u>Member/Retiree</u>	<u>Student</u>
Robert MacDowell	Brandon
Steven Benjamin	Arielle
Christopher Ryan	Kaylee
Anthony Matranga	Joseph
John Pizzingrillo	Robert
Catherine Carmichael	Catroina
Danielle Donovan	Delaney
Cicely Walters	Jesse
Susan Bridges	Erin
Patricia Waite	Kyra
Thomas Sellitto	Joseph
Patricia Biazzo	Craig
Lisa Cutrone	Grace
Beatrice Moscarelli	Michael
Dorota Glowa	Patrick

RAFFLE WINNERS

First Prize - \$1000

Michael Mattera

Second Prize - \$500

Lisa Riordan

Third Prize - \$250

Frank Russo

NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE **NOMINATIONS**

Clerical Series Nominees

Caitlin Hunt nominated:	<u>Kristina Kahres</u>
Gia Gesmondi nominated:	Kristina Asbell
	Kristina Kahres

Clerk Series Nominees

Julie Hynes Nominates:	<u>Jennifer Hoffman</u>
Margaret Kane Nominates:	Donald Curaba
	Jennifer Hoffman

Court Reporter/Attny Series Nominees

Kerri Lechtrecker Nominates:	<u>Kerry Bassett</u>
	Kerry Bassett

Security Series Nominees

Michael Graziano Nominates:	Daniel Friesem
Thomas Sullivan Nominates:	Daniel Rapisarda
Michael Parisi Nominates:	<u>Nicholas Tabile</u>
Christopher Gorman Nominates:	Mario D'Amaro
Robert Wolf Nominates:	James Raia
Robert Battey Nominates:	Amanda Pannenbacker
	Nicholas Tabile

LOANS MADE SIMPLE

Exclusive Discounts on Personal Loans

SCCEA members receive an additional **0.15 bps** off their qualifying unsecured personal loan rate

Specialty Mortgage Programs

- Island Federal will waive underwriting fees (**\$595 savings**) for SCCEA members.
- Access to the *Dream It, Achieve It* Mortgage: Finance a home with as little as 1% down.

Exclusive Discounts on Auto Loans

- SCCEA members receive an **additional 0.15 bps** off their qualifying auto loan rate.
- Low rates available on new cars, used cars, refinances, and lease buyouts.



GET STARTED AT ISLANDFCU.COM/SCCEA



SCCEA promotional benefits are available only to eligible individuals who are current members of SCCEA and who meet Island Federal Credit Union membership and account-opening requirements. Offers, rates, terms, and conditions are subject to change without notice and may be discontinued at any time. All loans are subject to credit approval. To receive Cash Back Rewards, Member must enroll their Island Federal Debit or Credit Mastercard in uChooseRewards at www.uchooserewards.com.

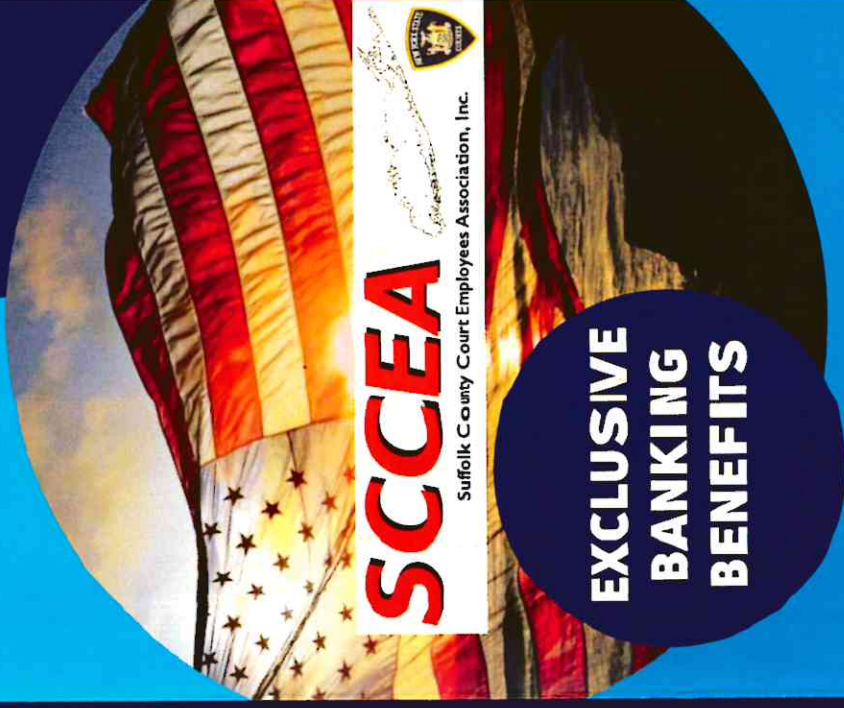
Loan Rate Discount (.15%APR):

A 0.15% APR (annual percentage rate) discount is available on qualifying auto loans and personal loans when the borrower establishes and maintains automatic payments from an Island Federal Cash Back Checking account. If automatic payments are discontinued, or if the borrower is no longer a member of SCCEA, the loan rate will revert to the then-applicable non-discounted rate. Minimum rate not to go below 3.00% APR.

\$100 Cash Back Checking Incentive:

Eligible individuals may earn up to \$100 in incentives when opening a Cash Back Checking Account with Debit Mastercard and completing the following actions on or before the 90th day after account opening: (1) \$25 after completing at least ten (10) debit card purchase transactions (ATM and person-to-person (P2P) transactions excluded); (2) an additional \$25 after successfully activating Island Federal Online Banking and/or Mobile App; (3) an additional \$25 after enrolling in e-Statements; and (4) an additional \$25 after enrolling in Direct Deposit and receiving a minimum of two electronic direct deposits into the account totaling no less than \$1,000 in a 90-day period. Maximum total incentive is \$100 per eligible individual. Bonus will be distributed into eligible members account the first business day of the month following their ninetieth day of membership and reported on IRS form 1099-INT.

Federally Insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender



SCCEA

Suffolk County Court Employees Association, Inc.

EXCLUSIVE BANKING BENEFITS

Through a partnership with
Island Federal Credit Union, SCCEA
members can receive exclusive union
only perks and benefits



ACHIEVE MORE

With Island Federal Credit Union, all SCCEA members can receive exclusive lending rates and access to additional programs to help maximize their banking.



Reduced rates on auto loans



Reduced rates on personal loans



Reduced fees and specialty mortgage programs



Early access to paychecks, Cash Back Rewards, & more!

ISLANDFCU.COM/SCCEA

\$100

WELCOME BONUS

Earn up to \$100 in bonuses after opening a Cash Back Checking Account and completing the following:

- 1 EARN \$25 BONUS**
After making your first 10 debit card purchases
- 2 EARN \$25 BONUS**
After setting up Online Banking
- 3 EARN \$25 BONUS**
After enrolling in eStatements
- 4 EARN \$25 BONUS**
After establishing Direct Deposit



THE SCCEA DEBIT CARD

Once you open a Cash Back Checking Account with Island Federal, you'll unlock all types of benefits.

NO MORE JUNK FEES

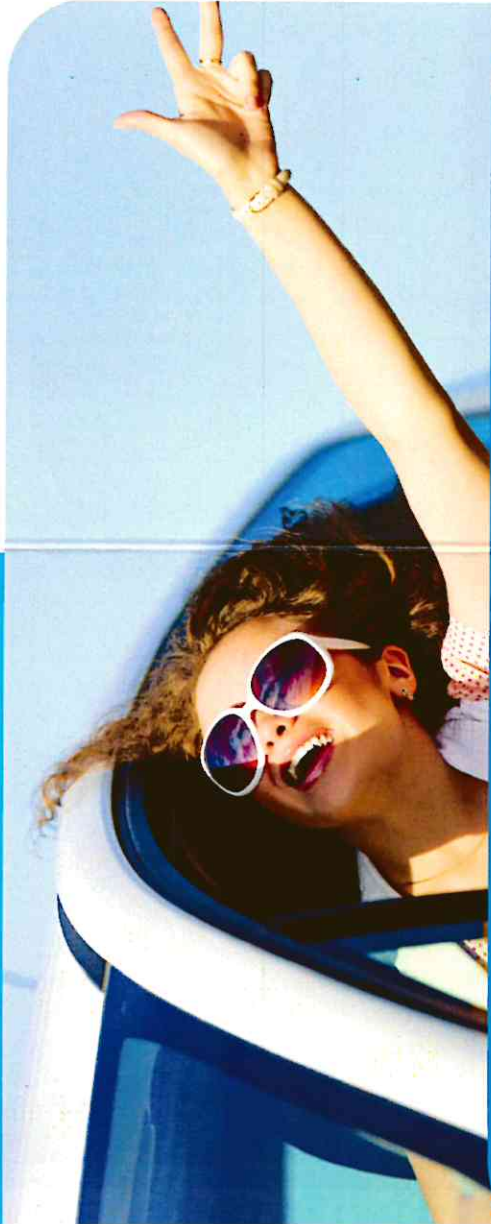
- No minimum balance requirements, no monthly fees

CASH BACK WITH EVERY SWIPE

- Earn Cash Back Rewards with every debit purchase

CONVENIENCE YOU'LL LOVE

- 24/7 access with mobile & online banking
- 125,000 fee-free ATMs and 6,500 courtesy banking locations nationwide



SCCEA members receive an additional 0.15% off their qualifying auto and personal loan rates!