

SUFFOLK COUNTY COURT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Delegates Meeting

Hauppauge Palace Diner

525 Smithtown Bypass

Hauppauge, NY 11788

October 2nd, 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. 26 Delegates PRESENT / 5 Delegates EXCUSED

3. READING OF THE PRIOR MINUTES

- a. Motion To Waive

4. TREASURE'S REPORT – as of 10/02/2026

***given by Secretary Treasurer James Vergano**

- a. Union Account \$134,936.85
- b. Welfare Account \$495,415.44
- c. PAC Fund \$20,326.72
- d. Scholarship Fund \$89,064.02
- e. Welfare Investments \$5,709,961.77 *Amount as of September 1st
(October not posted yet. We will have those #s for the General Meeting)
**This money is earmarked for the Welfare Fund as “Reserves” which will enable us to be self-sustaining without contributions from OCA if something were to happen.
- f. Union Investments \$451,128.20
The next payment of \$599k from the State will be made within the next few weeks. These payments are made quarterly.

5. **SICK LEAVE BANK**

- a. The Current SLB balance is approximately 61,874hrs. (approx.)
- b. (14) Members have been granted 3,847hrs (approx.) to date
- c. SCCEA President Tufarella has not decided if we will be taking the contractually agreed upon yearly contributions of 3hrs from the membership this April.
- d. The only **yearly** SLB contributions have come from NEW employees (21hrs) and new Transfers (14hrs)
- e. SLB contributions also come from retirees who retire with over 1400hrs of accrued and unused Sick Leave Credits.

6. **DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

- a. We currently have (18) people being represented with (1) on the way.
- b. (5) may be found to be unsubstantiated, (13) still very high number.
- c. In the last (3) weeks, we have had (9) formal counselling sessions.
- d. OCA has mandated Bias and Harassment Training for all employees and put out memos to keep employees informed of the updated policies put in place.
- e. Please be mindful of your surroundings and respectful of your coworkers.
- f. Disciplinary Actions can be lengthy and very costly investigations. One of the Unions' most costly expenses is the Attorney fees for Disciplinary Actions.

7. **GRIEVANCES**

- a. **None currently pending** – Labor Relations determines the outcomes of the grievances filed. However, after Step 2, they go BACK to Judge Crecca for their final judgement.

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. The current Governor has not signed any bills in our favor, only for Teachers.

- c. President Tufarella discussed that along with the other court unions, they have met with Bruce Blakeman and he has said that if he does get elected to office, his words were “PASS ME THE PEN” in reference to signing a 30/55 bill for our Tier 6 employees.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **SCCEA General Membership Meeting 10/07/2026** – The General Membership Meeting will be at 5th District Court in Ronkonkoma.
- b. **SCCEA Health & Wellness Fair** – We alternate every year where we have the Health & Wellness fair in Suffolk County Courts. This year would be in Riverhead. However, we will not be having it this year in Riverhead as the participation level is very low and is not fair to the vendors to come out & set up for no one to show up.
- c. **SCCEA Dinner Dance 11/10/2026** – New Venue **Villa Lombardi’s**
SCCEA MEMBERS \$100pp
- d. **SCCEA Contract Negotiations**
- e. **10/22 Vendors in Central Islip:**
***Jeff Bernstein (insurance/Identity shield)**
***Island Federal Bank**
- f. **Acclaimed Mobile Health – 11/16 in Riverhead & 11/17 in Central Islip**
- g. **President Tufarella opened the floor for questions/comments...**
**Discussions were had amongst the Delegates and Executive Board related to various issues including Allocation of Union Funds; Sick Leave Bank Hours; Disciplinary Actions; Labor Relations; New Appointments of (3) Union Committees; Staffing Issues; Scholarship Awards; and other various issues pertaining to the membership.

10. MOTION TO ADJOURN

MEETING ADJOURNED