



## 2021 USW Rapid Response, Legislative & Policy Conference

October 31 - November 3, 2021 – Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill – Washington, D.C.

July 6, 2021

USW Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, and Rapid Response Coordinators:

Last year has been one of the most challenging in generations. Our members stepped up in many ways and showed the resilience that reflects what it means to be a USW member. Now, as we see the pandemic restrictions lifting, we are excited to announce the 2021 Rapid Response, Legislative and Policy Conference. It will be held from October 31 – November 3, 2021, in Washington, D.C., at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill.

Every time we walk into our workplaces or negotiate a contract, laws and policies impact us. Elected officials are making decisions on these issues every day. The question is, will those decisions benefit us or do us harm?

Getting involved in Rapid Response and our union's legislative work brings our perspective to the table. By attending the conference, locals will gain knowledge on the key issues of today, learn how to share those issues with your broader membership, and build skills to help your local engage in actions that boost our union's power to impact government decisions – whether that's in Washington, in your state, or even your local community.

Whether your local has attended this conference in the past or is contemplating attending for the first time, we welcome everyone to participate. We are planning an updated format that will offer up educational opportunities for our most advanced activists as well as those who are learning about Rapid Response and our union's legislative work for the first time. The three-day event will include plenary sessions, workshops, opportunities to connect with other locals, meetings with your federal lawmakers, and much more.

We encourage every local to take part. We all have a stake. Rapid Response Coordinators and Team Members along with Local leadership are strongly encouraged to attend.

**\*NOTE:** Because these dates fall during an election day, please be sure that you vote early or vote absentee prior to the conference. You can find information on how to get your absentee ballot at: [www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/](http://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/).

### Schedule

**Registration** – Conference registration will take place on Sunday, October 31, from 2:00-6:00 p.m., and on Monday, November 1, from 7:00-9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, October 31 – Optional Orientation** – For those who are interested, orientation will be held at 7:30 p.m. We will share strategies to navigate Washington, D.C. and Capitol Hill, find landmarks and

restaurants, and learn about the conference. This is particularly helpful for first time conference attendees.

**Monday, November 1 & Tuesday, November 2** – The conference will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday. General sessions, rolling lobby meetings, and workshops will continue throughout Monday and Tuesday. Check our conference website at [www.usw.org/RR-conference](http://www.usw.org/RR-conference) for announcements on speakers and additional details.

**Wednesday, November 3 – Lobby Meetings and Closing Reception** – We will continue lobby meetings throughout the day. When conference attendees are not meeting with their legislators, we are planning other activities that we will keep updated on the conference website. We will close the day out with a fun, laid back reception.

## Registration

Please pre-register online, by mail, or by fax before October 11, 2021. There will be a discounted early-bird registration fee of \$200 per delegate if registering before September 1, 2021. If registering after that date, the regular fee will be \$250. Checks should be made payable to *USW Secretary-Treasurer*. Please be sure to specify your shirt size on your registration. Although not a guarantee, this will help us order properly.

- **Online Registration** – Go to our Rapid Response website at [www.usw.org/RR-conference](http://www.usw.org/RR-conference) and follow the instructions. Either pay online or mail a check to the address below; or
- **Mail Registration** – Mail the registration form and your check to:  
United Steelworkers Rapid Response, 60 Blvd. of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; or
- **Fax Registration** – Fax the registration form to the USW Rapid Response Department at 412-562-2266, then mail checks to United Steelworkers Rapid Response at the address above.

## Hotel & Airline Information

**Hotel** – A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Attendees should make their own hotel reservations by calling the hotel and referring to the conference code, **G-USTL**. If you prefer to book online, a link is available at <http://usw.to/RRregistration>. The hotel will accept reservations until October 11, 2021. To ensure availability, **please make your reservations as soon as possible**.

The room rate is \$269 a night plus tax. A credit card will be needed to reserve the room. If a reservation must be cancelled, please do so 72 hours before arrival or your card will be charged. Check-in is 3:00 p.m. and check-out is 12:00 p.m. Hotel parking is valet-only at a discounted conference rate of \$39 daily.

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill  
400 New Jersey Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Reservations: 1-877-803-7534 (Conference code: G-USTL)

A link for online hotel reservations can be found at: <http://usw.to/RRregistration>

The hotel direct number is 202-737-1234.

*Note: For any guests pre-paying by check, please send full payment including tax to the address above, Attn: Erika Cribillero. Checks will need to include the guest name as well as the corresponding confirmation number, and should arrive no later than one month in advance of check-in date. Guests will still need to bring a credit card for incidentals if they wish to have charges routed to their rooms.*

**Air Transportation** – In cooperation with Professional Travel, we have made special arrangements for air transportation. Reservations may be made by calling 1-877-499-1149 and selecting option #4. When calling, please identify yourself as a participant in the 2021 Rapid Response and Legislative Conference, code 1121RRLUSW. Please call between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday; otherwise, an after-hours transaction fee of \$16.00 will apply if the call is outside of these regular business hours.

In accordance with our established policy, the International Union will not be responsible for the cost of delegate(s) participation. Your local union must bear any expenses for attendance, including airfare and hotel fees.

## **Post-Pandemic**

As pandemic restrictions are lifting, there are some uncertainties as we prepare to welcome USW activists in Washington, D.C. We will be closely monitoring CDC guidance and any public health precautions the city or the hotel may have for our conference. We will also be monitoring the reopening of Capitol Hill so we can lobby lawmakers.

Our updated format and precautions during the conference will account for these circumstances so we can maximize our conference activities while making sure everyone is safe and comfortable.

As we work through these issues, **we encourage you to register for the conference and reserve a hotel room at the same time** in order to assure an accurate count of attendees.

## **Stay Connected**

Watch for additional announcements on our conference webpage at [www.usw.org/RR-conference](http://www.usw.org/RR-conference) and join our conference mobile alerts by texting **USWRR2021** to **69866** (standard messaging and data rates may apply).

If you have any questions regarding the registration process or conference details, please contact the Rapid Response Department at 412-562-2291. We look forward to your local's participation in what promises to be a very exciting conference.

In solidarity,

Thomas M. Conway  
International President

John Shinn  
International Secretary-Treasurer

Enclosure

## MAIL OR FAX REGISTRATION FORM



Online registration is available at [www.usw.org/RR-conference](http://www.usw.org/RR-conference)  
**PLEASE MAIL or FAX THIS FORM BY: October 11, 2021**  
**FAX#: 412-562-2266**

Please mail this Registration Form with a check payable to USW International Secretary-Treasurer in the amount of \$200 per delegate before September 1, 2021, or \$250 per delegate after that date to: United Steelworkers Rapid Response, 60 Blvd. of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

The following member(s) will attend the Conference. **PLEASE PRINT.** For additional attendees, copy this page. We will share Conference information with the individual(s) below based on the emails provided.

Name: (to appear on badge)	District #:	Local #:
Home Mailing Address: (city, state, zip)		
Email:		
Phone # (circle type – home / cell / local union):		
Shirt Size: (unisex – please circle one) S M L XL 2X 3X 4X 5X		
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Home Mailing Address: (city, state, zip)		
Email:		
Phone # (circle type - home / cell / local union):		
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Phone # (Circle type - home / cell / local union):		
Shirt Size: (unisex – please circle one) S M L XL 2X 3X 4X 5X		

Enclosed is a check made payable to USW Secretary-Treasurer for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$200 before September 1, 2021; \$250 after)

Form completed by (name/title): \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

Contact number with area code: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_