



March 12, 2024

To: USW Local Union Presidents and Recording Secretaries in the U.S. Paper Sector

Greetings:

We are pleased to announce our 10<sup>th</sup> USW National Paper Bargaining Conference, to be held in Austin, TX August 5-8, 2024. At the conference, we will set forth our bargaining and safety agendas and build our work plan for the next two years.

Our theme for this year's conference is ***"The Power of Paper: We Matter"*** because paper products impact our everyday lives and sometimes in ways that are not readily apparent. From the receipt paper used at most checkout lines and gas stations across the country, to the tips of the swabs in the COVID test kits that have been used by millions of people around the world; our sector has had an impact on every corner of our everyday lives. That is the reason we are highlighting the power of our sector and why we matter!

### **Schedule**

Council meetings, where policy committee members are selected for each council, will occur throughout the months of March, April and May in order to free up time in the conference schedule and ensure that delegates are able to participate in more educational sessions than at past conferences. Call letters for each respective council meeting are forthcoming by email and hard copies by mail.

Conference registration will take place on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and the morning of Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., prior to the opening of the conference.

The conference will take place over 2 ½ days. The first two days will consist of workshops and plenary sessions. An evening reception will be held on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. The last half-day will begin with an additional plenary session, followed by the presentation of this year's recipient(s) of the Boyd D. Young Safety Award, and conclude with setting the National Paper Bargaining Policy and safety action plan - Making and Converting Paper Safely.

Delegates should plan to arrive on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> and depart after the plenary session adjourns at noon on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Policy committee members should arrive on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> to participate in a designated policy committee meeting on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Please visit the conference website, periodically, for future announcements and updates to the agenda: [www.usw.org/paper-conference](http://www.usw.org/paper-conference).

## Conference Registration and Fee

Pre-registration for the conference is available on-line, by email, or mail, and should be completed by **July 6, 2024**. In order to cover conference costs, a registration fee of \$175 per participant has been set.

- **Online registration:** Visit the Paper Conference section of the USW website at [www.usw.org/paper-conference](http://www.usw.org/paper-conference) and follow the instructions. Either pay online with a credit card or e-check, or mail a physical check to the address listed below.
- **Email registration:** Email the enclosed registration form to Samara Rosenberg at [srosenberg@usw.org](mailto:srosenberg@usw.org), and mail a check to the address listed below.
- **Mail registration:** Mail the enclosed registration form and a check to the address listed below.

All checks should be made payable to: **USW Secretary-Treasurer**, Include *"2024 Paper Conference"* on the memo line of the check. Mail the check to: USW, c/o Samara Rosenberg, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, 60 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

## Hotel Information

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Austin, TX. The room rate is \$209 per night plus taxes. A credit card will be needed to make reservations. **The deadline for hotel reservations is July 12, 2024.**

Hyatt Regency  
208 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78704

Call 888-421-1442 to make reservations and reference 'USW Paper Conference'.

Book on-line at: <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/AUSRA/G-UST1>

For self-parking, the daily parking rate in the hotel's parking garage is \$10 and \$20 overnight. Valet parking is also available at higher hourly rates up to \$59+tax overnight.

## Airline Information

In cooperation with Direct Travel, we have made special arrangements for delegates to book air transportation to the conference. Please call 877-499-1149 and select prompt "4" (group meetings). Please identify yourself as a participant in the USW Paper Conference. Please call between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, or you will incur an after-hours fee of \$16.00.

**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.**

## Stay Connected

Watch for additional announcements on our conference webpage at [www.usw.org/paper-conference](http://www.usw.org/paper-conference). Sign up for text message alerts related to the conference and other happenings in the paper sector by texting PAPER to 47486 (standard messaging and data rates may apply), or using the QR code at right. We will also have a conference app available; you can find information on downloading it on the aforementioned conference website in the coming weeks.



If you have any questions regarding the registration process or conference details, please contact Samara Rosenberg at (412) 562-2423.

We look forward to discussing the state of our Union, the paper sector, our advances, our challenges and continuing our work to make our workplaces safer.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David McCall".

David McCall  
International President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luis A. Mendoza".

Luis A. Mendoza  
International Vice President

DM/LAM/sr  
Enclosure

cc: International Executive Board  
National Paper Bargaining Chair  
Staff Representatives