



# TEAMSTERS LOCAL 743

Health Care, Professional, Technical, Office, Warehouse and Mail Order Employees Union

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## JUSTICE PREVAILS IN TEAMSTERS CONVICTION

Union members of Teamsters Local 743 are rejoicing over the guilty charges that former President Lopez and two former staff received today in the federal trial over election rigging in 2004.

“We are elated that the workers ended up on the victorious side of this verdict,” stated Teamsters Local 743 President Richard Berg. “The U.S. Department of Labor had the evidence needed to convict them. Now we are anxiously waiting for the financial reparation of the \$2.2 million that was taken from the hard working members of this union.”

Union members now know that the 2004 election was stolen. After Robert Walston, former Local 743 President, pled guilty along with finger print evidence from the U.S. Attorney and testimony from members who had their ballots stolen, their fate was sealed.

“This guilty conviction is a great victory for all of us rank-and-file members,” stated Andy Orsburn, union member at the University of Chicago. “We pay monthly union dues to protect our rights against management, not to pay exorbitant salaries to crooks who play golf instead work. I only wish President Berg’s slate could have gotten into office sooner, like they were supposed to!” Current President Berg has cut his salary and benefits by over 50%.

“I am so glad, so glad that they were convicted. I hope that the \$2.2 million is returned back to the membership,” stated Gina Alvarez, Local 743 Secretary-Treasurer.

Former President Richard Lopez and staffers Ted Bania and David Rodriguez could receive up to 20 years in prison for each count of mail fraud and up to five years for each count of conspiracy and theft.