NECA Boston Proactive in Massachusetts Paid Family Medical Leave Legislation

by Glenn Kingsbury, Executive Manager, NECA Boston Chapter

When the Massachusetts Paid Family Medical Leave Act (PFMLA) takes effect on July 1, 2019, member contractors of the NECA Boston Chapter, as well as fellow union construction industry employers throughout the Commonwealth, can be assured their interests are being strongly represented so that they will be able to comply with the spirit of the legislation without facing an unfair financial burden due to the unique nature of the construction industry.

NECA Boston has proudly joined with the other union construction industry employer groups to ensure that the our state legislature fully understands union construction industry requirements. In so doing, appropriate technical revisions to the proposed Paid Family Medical Leave regulations have been made, and the updated draft regulations will allow employers to comply with union construction industry retirement benefit requirements and the PFMLA.

In addition, NECA Boston alongside the other union construction industry employer groups are working to garner support on Beacon Hill for a technical revision to the statute that will clarify the requirements of our employers under PFMLA.

Without action, our employers and union benefit funds will be put into the position where they are unable to commodate the PFMLA while honoring their commitments made through collective bargaining that are governed under federal law through the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) and ERISA.

As representatives of our employer members, NECA Boston is proud to work with our labor partners at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers – IBEW Local 103 in Boston, Local 567 in Southern Maine and Local 1253 in Northern Maine, and Local 490 in New Hampshire – in negotiating collective bargaining of wages, benefits and work conditions that make union electrical construction a highly compensated career that offers union workers outstanding health and pension benefits. First and foremost, our members must comply with those collective bargaining agreements.

NECA consistently endorses legislation which advances and is fair to the legitimate interests of our members. And we oppose legislation which seeks to impose unfair restrictions upon the employer or its employees, or which seeks to impose undue and harmful burdens on the industry.

In keeping with our responsibility and commitment, NECA Boston will continue our proactive role to ensure legislative issues in Massachusetts fairly address the unique concerns and requirements of employers in the union electrical construction industry. It is equally important that NECA Boston Chapter members and fellow union construction industry employers voice their concerns about the Paid Family Medical Leave Legislation and any other impending legislation that may not fully take into account the unique nature of the construction industry.

We look forward to keeping you abreast of all Massachusetts legislation that directly impacts the union construction industry.

LAN-TEL Communications Served as Official Surveillance Camera Provider for the 123rd Boston Marathon

NECA Boston contractor also provides state-of-the-art security with Mobile Action Command Unit

NORWOOD, MA – April 16, 2019 – LAN-TEL Communications, Inc., the prominent low-voltage and security integrator based in Norwood, MA, served as the official surveillance camera provider for the 123rd Boston Marathon on Monday, April 15th. The NECA contractor partnered with authorities to place cameras at strategic locations along the race course.

LAN-TEL’s Mobile Action Command Unit (MACU) was also deployed to enhance the Marathon’s public safety surveillance efforts. It marks the second year the uniquely equipped surveillance vehicle has been utilized for the Marathon. The MACU recently was also deployed for the New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox victory parades.

“LAN-TEL is honored to have assisted Boston Athletic Association authorities, the city of Boston, public safety personnel, and spectators with highly advanced security efforts,” said Joe Bodo, CEO of LAN-TEL Communications. “Surveillance at large-scale public events is of paramount importance to help ensure safety, and our capabilities are constantly evolving to offer state-of-the-art security technology.”

LAN-TEL Communications is a low-voltage contractor for the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The company is the security system provider for the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR) and several Greater Boston-area municipalities, having provided hundreds of wireless video security system installations throughout the region and integrating them into respective area headquarters.

NECA Boston Members Advocate for Key Issues at NECA 2019 National Legislative Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. – NECA Boston’s Legislative Committee joined with Tremont Strategies Group to represent Massachusetts electrical construction industry at the 2019 National Legislative Conference, April 29th through May 1st, in Washington, D.C. The event is the premier legislative conference for electrical contractors to learn about key issues affecting the industry and to meet with Congressional leaders in advocating for real solutions.


Photo: NECA Boston Contingent Meeting with Representative Katherine Clarke – l - r: George Gomes, Tremont Strategies Group, Kristen Guinan, Assistant Mgr., NECA Boston Chapter, Dan Venecia, T&T Electrical Contractors, Michael McDonald, Chapter President of McDonald Electrical Corp., Joseph McCluskey, Jr., Chapter Governor of E.G. Sawyer, U.S. Congresswoman Katherine Clarke, Matt Guarracino, JM Electrical Company, Samantha McDonald, daughter of Mike McDonald and student at American University, Kathleen Guinee, Aetna Fire Alarm Service Co., Inc., John Rudius, Sullivan & McLaughlin Companies.

For a complete directory of NECA Greater Boston Chapter member firms, call 1-877-NECA-IBEW or visit us at www.bostonneca.org.
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