

CONNECTICUT: **How We Got Here, Where We Are Going**

**Stephen P. Livingston
Yiu Kwong “Kevin” Ng**

*760 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106
(800) 894-9479 ~ www.csea-ct.com*



WHO WE ARE

- λ Stephen Livingston and Kevin Ng
- λ CSEA/SEIU Local 2001
- λ P-4 Council (Bargaining Unit)
- λ Engineers, Planners, IT Professionals
- λ Members in 33 State agencies

OUR PRESENTATION

- λ Intro to Connecticut
- λ Connecticut's Government Structure
- λ Brief History of Some Colorful Characters
- λ CSEA/SEIU's Role in Economic Recovery

INTRO TO CONNECTICUT

- λ “Gateway to New England”
- λ Eight Counties
 - λ But No County Government
- λ 196 Cities and Towns
- λ Mayors, Selectmen, Councils and Boards
- λ Connecticut’s “Center of the Universe”
 - λ City of Waterbury...

WATERBURY'S HALL OF SHAME



λ Former Mayor Joseph Santopietro

- λ Convicted of bribery, bank fraud, and embezzlement
- λ Sentenced to 9 years in prison

WATERBURY'S HALL OF SHAME



λ Former Mayor Philip Giordano

- λ Convicted of sexually abusing two preteen girls
- λ Sentenced to 37 years in prison

WATERBURY'S HALL OF SHAME



λ Former Governor John Rowland

- λ Convicted of accepting discount vacation rentals
- λ Convicted of awarding contracts in exchange for favors
- λ Served 1 year in federal prison

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

λ State Budget Shortfalls

- λ \$800 million for fiscal year 2009

- λ \$6.2 to 8.3 billion for fiscal years 2010-2011

λ Governor Rell Not Blaming Workers

- λ “State employees are not at fault”

λ Asked General Public for Cost-Savings

Public Input on the Budget

λ 115 Days of Open Forum Suggestions

λ 1,700 Suggestions From the Public

- λ State employee labor union concessions
- λ Layoffs of State employees
- λ Offer early retirement to State employees
- λ “Furlough” State employees
- λ Close State buildings after holidays
- λ Reinstate Tolls on State Highways
- λ Numerous Impractical/III-Informed Suggestions
 - λ Impose the Death Penalty on More Inmates
 - λ Make State employees pay Social Security

Union Members' Contributions

- λ SEBAC Discussions with Officials
- λ Agreement Not Final - Some Provisions:
 - λ Job Security for Two Years
 - λ Increase in Co-Pays On Prescriptions
 - λ Increase in Co-Pays On Doctor Office Visits
 - λ Furlough Days
 - λ Wage Freezes for 2009-2010

Union's Stimulus Package

λ OJE Agreement in State DOT

- λ Reclassified Titles To Higher Salary Grades
- λ Higher Salary Grades For TE 3s and TSEs
- λ Degree Needed For TE 3 Advancement
- λ PE Or LS Needed For TSEs

λ Labor Management Agreement

- λ Alternate Work Schedule – 4/4 or 5/4 Weeks
- λ Given Option to Choose a 40-Hour Workweek

Full Agreement Available Online at Website's Main P-4 Page:

www.csea-ct.com/stateworkers/p4/Default.aspx

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

- λ There Will a New Crisis in Our Future
 - λ We Will Always be Part of the Fix
 - λ Need to Be Proactive – Not Reactive to Crises
- λ Need to Eliminate Member Apathy
 - λ Need Involvement from Next Generation
- λ Need to Elect Quality Candidates
 - λ Need to Build Greater Political Power
- λ Need to Change Public Perception

Our Union's Goals & Objectives

- λ We Must Achieve Results-Based Outcomes
 - λ Preservation Of Vital Public Services
 - λ Improved Perception of Public Employees
 - λ Strong Labor Contracts
 - λ Sound Pension Plans
 - λ Excellent Healthcare Coverage

CONNECTICUT

How We Got Here; Where We Are Going



λ THANKS FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!

λ QUESTIONS?