

## **LABOR LEADERS SHOW UP IN FULL FORCE TO SUPPORT RE-ELECTION OF DAVID SOARES FOR ALBANY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Albany County's labor unions, collectively representing thousands of workers in Albany County, showed up in full force on Friday to show their support for District Attorney David Soares. At the Labor Unions Breakfast sponsored by Teamsters Local 294, the groups today raised over \$14,000 for Soares, and committed considerable resources to mobilize their members in the fall election. This brings the total union contributions to Soares to nearly \$50,000, which is very unusual so early in the cycle when many unions have not yet made their endorsements.

Sam Fresina, the business manager for the Eastern New York Laborers District Council, spoke highly of Soares' initiative to crack down on workplace violations. "District Attorney Soares has been a friend of the men and women of the Labor movement. His efforts to prosecute prevailing wage violations have demonstrated what an independent D.A. can do to help preserve the jobs and wages of working people in our area," said Fresina.

Teamsters Local 294 President John Bulgaro commented on the widespread support displayed at the breakfast. "For all of us to get together like this, so early in the year, really shows how committed we are to District Attorney Soares' re-election. He's been a dedicated, independent fighter on behalf of Albany's working families, and we want to make sure he sees this overwhelming support."

Patricia Lippold from the political powerhouse union, SEIU 1199 Health Care Workers East, reiterated her union's support for Soares. "Health Caregivers are excited about working hard to re-elect David Soares. David is committed to issues our member's care about, like reforming the Rockefeller drug laws and making sure there is one system of justice for everyone in Albany County. Members are making plans now to help David by talking to their co-workers, knocking on doors and sending letters because he has worked hard for us making Albany a safer and more equitable place to work and live," said Lippold.

Since taking office on January 1, 2005, DA Soares has built an accomplished record of independent high-profile and sophisticated investigations and trials. Soares expanded the office's prosecutions to include crimes of public integrity, financial crimes and sophisticated long-term investigations targeting organized crime networks. District Attorney Soares has taken on pressing workplace issues, including prosecutions of employers committing wage violations and perpetrators of workplace violence.

Ken Brynien from the Public Employees Federation highlighted the workplace violence issues that Soares has addressed as District Attorney: "PEF wants to thank District Attorney Soares for his prosecutions of people committing violence against public employees and those abusing the public trust. David is truly a model independent district attorney who fights for our hard-working families."

Labor organizations present at the event in support of David Soares include:

- Albany County Central Federation of Labor
- SEIU 1199 Health Care Workers East
- NYSUT
- PEF
- UNITE HERE Rochester Regional Joint Board
- Teamsters Local 294

- New York State Pipe Trades Association
- Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 7
- Iron Workers Local 12
- Eastern New York Laborers District Council
- Laborers Local 190
- Communication Workers of America Local 1118
- Bricklayers Local 2
- ATU Local 1321
- Empire Carpenter

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