

ATU WAS RIDIN' WITH WARNOCK AND HE WON!



ATU Was Ridin' With Warnock, and He Won

It was an inspiring election night in Georgia as ATU members helped deliver a massive victory by re-electing Senator Reverend Raphael Warnock. The impact of this victory won't just be felt in Georgia but at the national level by giving the Senate a 51 vote majority. As we did in 2021, leading up to the election, the ATU was on the ground getting out the vote with our Locals **732**-Atlanta and **1324**-Savannah to make history again. International President Costa was also on the ground to help mobilize our members to the polls by visiting transit hubs and garages, participating in a labor rally with Warnock and hundreds of union members, and providing critical resources to reach voters. Thank you to all our members who helped win this runoff for working people.

After Attack on a Local 113-Toronto, ON, Member and Stabbing Death of Rider - Local 113 Demands Better Safety at TTC



ATU Local **113**-Toronto, ON, is speaking out after a [female operator was assaulted and robbed while on duty](#), and only days later, [one person was stabbed to death and another injured at a TTC station](#). "ATU Local 113, along with the citizens of Toronto, are outraged at these repeated acts of violence on public transit and demand that the City of Toronto and the TTC take transit safety seriously and now act with urgency," said the Local. "Waiting is not an option." The Local says that "consistent and proper enforcement" is

their highest priority for those who commit violent attacks or harass transit workers. "Any violent attack on a worker at their job is a tragedy. The fact that they happen again and again is a catastrophe," the Local continued. "We have seen throughout the pandemic tensions rising and conflict becoming increasingly common and more serious. Workers have a right to be able to perform their jobs free from fear of violence and harassment." The Local plans to focus on increasing communication with the TTC, including working on joint health and safety committees to mitigate assaults.

ATU General Executive Board in DC for Collective Bargaining and Contract Campaigns Training to Better Assist Our Locals



This week in Washington, DC, the ATU General Executive Board is taking an innovative Collective Bargaining and Contract Campaigns training to improve their skills and learn new strategies to better assist our Locals to secure strong contracts for our members. “As our Locals are facing new challenges and anti-union tactics from transit agencies and private employers at the negotiations table, we need to be prepared to fight for our members,” said ATU International President John Costa who attended the training. “This training provides critical bargaining strategies to help our Locals wage successful contract campaigns.” The training conducted by labor experts and ATU staff covered Table Tactics, Contract Costing, Bad Faith Bargaining, Conflict Resolution, Joint Industry Council Trends, Organizing for Power, and other topics. The training also included Negotiation Simulation and other interactive exercises.

ATU Applauds House and Senate Passage of the Respect for Marriage Act



Yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Respect for Marriage Act after the Senate passed it last week. The act codifies federal recognition of same-sex and interracial marriages. The bill now goes to President Joe Biden’s desk for his signature. “What an amazing, history-making day,” said ATU International President John Costa. “The Respect for Marriage Act, once signed into law, will ensure we finally live in a world that honors millions of LGBTQ+ Americans and marriages of different races, ethnicities, and national origin in this country and the lives of their children and families. Thank you to the House and Senate for being on the right side of history.” The bill was passed by a bipartisan coalition of Democrat and Republican lawmakers. “Love is love, and we will never go back to a time when people were denied the right to protection because of who they are,” continued Costa.

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Dalton Public School Workers Join the ATU Family



We welcome 63 employees of Dalton, GA, at Dalton Public Schools to the ATU family who overwhelmingly voted to join Local **1212**-Chattanooga, TN. These workers now have a strong voice in the workplace. We look forward to securing them a strong contract that recognizes the important contributions they make in their community. This is an especially nice win in the South after our big Senate win in Georgia. Thank you to our new members for standing up and standing strong for a union they deserve.

ATU Observes the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada



It's been over 30 years since the brutal murder of 14 young women at Polytechnique Montréal. The December 6, 1989, violent act of misogyny led Parliament to declare December 6th as The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada. The ATU observed the day to remember the lives of all women lost to violence, to uplift the survivors, and to reaffirm our commitment to ending gender-based violence in all its forms. We acknowledge the hatred that motivated this mass shooting simply because

they were women. We must continue to educate ourselves and our communities and center the voices of survivors. We honor the memory of the Polytechnique Montréal victims - Geneviève Bergeron, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Croteau, Barbara Daigneault, Anne-Marie Edward, Maud Haviernick, Maryse Laganière, Maryse Leclair, Anne-Marie Lemay, Sonia Pelletier, Michèle Richard, Annie St-Arneault, Annie Turcotte, and Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz.

ATU in the Holiday Spirit - Our Local 883-Everett, WA, Hosts Annual "Stuff-A-Bus" Event



Making it more than 30 years, our Local **883**-Everett, WA, is again hosting their annual Stuff-A-Bus charity drive on the three Saturdays after Thanksgiving Day. In partnership with Everett Transit and Volunteers of America Western Washington, the Local is asking residents to donate non-perishable food, toys and hygiene items for families in need across Everett, WA. "We have a lot of drivers with really good hearts," said Local President Steve Oss. "It's really special watching the kids' faces when they get something [for Christmas] when they weren't expecting anything and then seeing their parent's faces when they see their kid's faces." Let us know if your Local does an event or other charitable activities around the holidays by emailing officeofthepresident@atu.org.

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With the Rise in Assaults on Our Winnipeg, MB, Members, Local 1505 Demands Better Safety to Address Workforce Shortage



Our Local **1505**-Winnipeg, MB, says the increasing attacks on our members and lack of safety is why Winnipeg Transit has been unable to fill dozens of bus operator vacancies. Local President Romeo Ignacio says they're short about 50 drivers resulting in a six percent reduction in service, a level he's never seen before. "We're concerned this is escalating into a situation where we are not going to be able to, like the mayor has promised, get to 100 percent of the service," said Ignacio. "It affects the schedule that the city

has provided, which is based on a pandemic schedule and it wears you down." Currently, around 100 drivers are on a leave of absence for medical or personal leave, with the biggest barrier for recruiting new drivers being safety. "A lot of our operators, whether they have been here 20-30 years, they have decided to not risk it, call it quits and retire," "It also has an impact on new operators," he said. "You don't have the experience yet. You come into work, hear this or you actually get assaulted, verbally assaulted and it has an impact on your work and well-being."

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More and more people are staying connected and informed on social media. If you want to keep updated and informed about how the ATU and our Locals are fighting for our members and the latest news on our Union, politics, industry trends, and other issues impacting our members, please follow ATU's social media on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and now on [TikTok @atucomm](#)s. If you already "like" and "follow" our social media pages, thank you, and please share our stories, photos, and videos and invite your friends

to "like" and "follow" the ATU too.