

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

LOCAL UNION NO. 150, 150A, 150B, 150C, 150D, 150E, 150G, 150M, 150O, 150 R.A.

AFFILIATED WITH THE A.F.L.-C.I.O. AND BUILDING TRADES DEPARTMENT

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LOCAL 150 FILES UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE CHARGE AGAINST QSL AMERICA, INC.

COUNTRYSIDE, IL (May 22, 2025) – The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 150, AFL-CIO, a labor union representing over 24,000 working men and women in Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa whose members operate and maintain heavy equipment in a variety of industries, has officially filed an unfair labor practice (ULP) charge against QSL America, Inc., challenging to a range of significant issues regarding the company's treatment of its workforce. The charge underscores several other grievances, such as the imposition of unacceptable working conditions.

QSL America, Inc. d/b/a North America Stevedoring Company (NASCO) has 3 locations in Chicagoland, many more across the Northeast, and a few on the Gulf of Mexico. The parent company, QSL, is located in Canada. QSL is a key supply chain player in port terminal operations, stevedoring, marine services, logistics and transport throughout North America. While QSL emphasizes the careful handling of cargo, Local 150 questions the care afforded to its employees.

Within the last six months, QSL America, Inc. has violated the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) by promulgating and maintaining an Employee Handbook, containing provisions that violate Section 7 of the NLRA. The Employee Handbook contains over-broad workplace rules and/or policies that interfere with employees in the exercise of their Section 7 rights. QSL America, Inc. workers are engaged in an unfair labor practice strike, protesting the company's unjust labor policies.

Workers at QSL America, Inc. report being subjected to dangerous work environments with unsafe machinery, and they claim the company fails to provide necessary overtime pay. Additionally, the cost of benefits is prohibitively high, making them inaccessible to many employees. The lack of proper training further exacerbates the risks faced by workers daily.

Moreover, the workers report a hostile and toxic work environment, where employees are subjected to constant surveillance through cameras. This invasive monitoring is coupled with intimidation tactics, where workers feel threatened if they voice concerns or fail to meet unreasonable demands. Instances of retaliation against employees who speak out have also been reported.

Furthermore, at the beginning of May, it was reported on WDSU News Channel 6 in New Orleans, that a dock worker named Darius Clement disappeared during his work shift on April 22 at First Street Wharf, also known as QSL, a cargo handling company on the river. This incident further highlights alleged unsafe work conditions in multiple QSL locations.

Local 150 is committed to advocating for the rights and safety of workers and calls on QSL America, Inc. to address these issues immediately. The union stands firmly against this unfair labor practice and is prepared to pursue all legal avenues to ensure justice and fair treatment for all employees.

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ABOUT THE IUOE LOCAL 150: [The International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150](#) is a labor union representing over 24,000 working men and women in Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa. Local 150 members operate and maintain heavy equipment in a variety of industries, which include heavy highway and building construction, heavy equipment rental and repair shops, construction material production, concrete pumping, hoisting, steel mill service, slag processing, pits and quarries, landfills, testing and drilling, pipeline, landscaping, public works, and more. In addition to securing work for its union members, Local 150 fights on behalf of all working men and women to ensure fair wages and equal pay. Most recently, Local 150 championed The Worker's Rights Amendment in 2022, ensuring constitutional protection for all Illinois workers to join a union.