

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Jacob Hay, 202-942-2285

On Eve of Iowa Caucuses, LIUNA Aims for Member Turnout

Union Continues to Ramp Up Member Engagement and Mobilization in Search For a “Build America” Candidate

Washington, DC (January 2, 2008) – LIUNA – the Laborers’ International Union of North America – continues to ramp up its member education and mobilization efforts with a caucus-eve turnout effort in Iowa.

“Everyday you do the work of building America and now is your chance to be heard,” the union’s General President, Terry O’Sullivan, says in an automated call to members today urging them to caucus on Thursday.

LIUNA’s half-million rank-and-file members, including several thousand in Iowa, are looking for a “Build America” candidate – one who will put their everyday issues first, including the creation of good, family-supporting jobs, a commitment to rebuilding our country’s crumbling infrastructure and access to health care.

LIUNA has not endorsed a presidential candidate and does not intend to do so until one candidate earns 60 percent of membership support. The union has conducted random-sample surveys of members on the issues and on candidate preference. Another national survey of members will be conducted this month following the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary.

LIUNA will continue reaching out to members with all available tools, including auto-dialing, email, text messaging and the web, as well as local grassroots member-to-member organizing. In September, thousands of LIUNA members from hundreds of communities tuned in for the first-ever live national union webcast of the major Democratic presidential candidates. Members continue to view candidate remarks at www.LiunaLive.org.

“Our goal is to engage our members – an army of one-half million strong – so that they can engage the candidates and encourage them to stand up for ‘Build America’ issues,” O’Sullivan said.

The half-million members of LIUNA are on the forefront of the construction industry – a sector that is a powerhouse of 10 million workers who produce 5 percent of the nation’s economic output.

###