

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

Craft-Maintenance Division State of California Unit 12
Locals 3, 39 & 501, AFL-CIO

Big Win for IUOE Unit 12!

CalOSHA Issues Citation and Monetary Penalties Against Caltrans on Homeless Encampment Cleanup – May 8, 2019

On November 6, 2018, IUOE Unit 12 filed a complaint with CalOSHA against Caltrans District 3 (Vietnam Veterans Bridge, Highway 50 in Placerville) management concerning our members being forced to cleanup homeless encampments along the highway and bridges.

On May 2, 2019, CalOSHA notified IUOE Unit 12 that they have issued a citation along with monetary penalties against Caltrans for violations associated with the lack of an effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program. This is a huge victory for our members. We have been fighting with Caltrans management over this issue for the last 18 months. In addition to the CalOSHA complaint we filed, we also have a health and safety grievance on this same issue proceeding to arbitration.

Our position has always been, if you are going to force our members to perform this work, even though it is not in their job specification, you better protect their health and safety and pay them for what it is worth.

This is the second citation and monetary penalties that have been levied against the State of California on this issue of cleaning up homeless encampments. The first was against the Department of General Services for having their Groundskeepers cleaning up human waste and biohazardous materials at the State Capitol Park and surrounding state buildings.

The citation and penalties were for violations of T8 CCR 3203 (a) and 3203 (a) (7).

UNION STRONG!

Steve Crouch
Director of Public Employees