



Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

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THE PA SUPREME COURT IS THE TEAMSTERS LAST LIFELINE



This election will not be about whether you are a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or about national politics. This election will be about whether you vote to retain three PA Supreme Court Justices that will protect your wages, benefits, seniority, working conditions, the grievance procedure and the union way of life.

It is imperative you vote **YES** to retain our three endorsed Democratic Supreme Court Justices- Christine Donohue, Kevin Dougherty, and David Wecht—they have consistently sided with rulings that bolster worker rights, public sector unions, and democratic access.

Losing the three Democratic justices on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court could have serious consequences for labor rights, especially given the court's recent track record and the political dynamics at play. Their judicial philosophy tends to favor constitutional interpretations that protect collective bargaining, public services, and worker dignity.

What Happens If They're Removed

- **Court Gridlock:** Without these three, the court could be left with a 2–2 partisan split. That means labor-related cases could stall or result in unpredictable outcomes.
- **Blocked Appointments:** The Republican-controlled Senate could refuse to confirm replacements appointed by the Democratic governor, leaving the court short-handed until 2027.
- **Long-Term Shift:** Republicans are eyeing a conservative majority that could reverse key precedents—especially those involving union rights, wage protections, and public employee benefits.

THE PA SUPREME COURT ISN'T JUST A LEGAL BODY – IT'S A GATEKEEPER FOR LABOR RIGHTS IN A POLITICAL DIVIDED STATE

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court isn't just a legal body—it's a gatekeeper for labor rights in a politically divided state. Losing these justices could tip the balance toward rulings that favor corporate interests and restrict union influence. For labor advocates, this retention vote is as consequential as any legislative election.

State Supreme Courts That Ruled Against Labor Unions

Wisconsin

- **Case:** *Madison Teachers Inc. v. Walker* (2014)



- **Issue:** Challenge to Act 10, which stripped most public employees of collective bargaining rights.
- **Ruling:** The Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld Act 10, declaring it constitutional.
- **Impact:** Devastated public sector unions—membership in AFSCME and other major unions dropped dramatically.

◆ Michigan

- **Case:** *Council 25 v. Snyder* (2015)
- **Issue:** Challenge to Michigan’s “Right-to-Work” law, which banned mandatory union dues.
- **Ruling:** The Michigan Supreme Court upheld the law.
- **Impact:** Weakened union funding and organizing capacity, especially in traditionally union-heavy industries.

◆ Florida

- **Case:** *Florida Education Association v. DeSantis* (2023)
- **Issue:** Laws restricting payroll deduction for union dues and requiring 60% membership to remain certified.
- **Ruling:** The Florida Supreme Court declined to block the law.
- **Impact:** Threatens the survival of many public sector unions, especially in education.

◆ Indiana

- **Case:** *Zoeller v. Sweeney* (2014)
- **Issue:** Challenge to Indiana’s Right-to-Work law.
- **Ruling:** The Indiana Supreme Court upheld the law.
- **Impact:** Reinforced anti-union legislation, limiting union security agreements.

◆ Iowa

- **Case:** *AFSCME Iowa Council 61 v. State of Iowa* (2019)
- **Issue:** Challenge to a law that restricted collective bargaining for public employees.
- **Ruling:** The Iowa Supreme Court upheld the law.
- **Impact:** Reduced bargaining power for thousands of public workers.

This retention election is a pivotal moment for labor in Pennsylvania. The stakes couldn’t be higher.

Protect the Court. Protect Our Rights. Vote **YES to Retain the PA Conference of Teamsters Endorsed Candidates**

- **Justice Christine Donohue**
- **Justice Kevin Doughery**
- **Justice David Wecht**

**“VOTE LIKE YOUR CONTRACT IS ON THE LINE”
“BECAUSE IT IS”**

**IF WE LOSE, CORPORATE INTERESTS AND
ANTI-UNION FACTIONS WIN**

County of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Condado de Estado de Pennsylvania

Precinct

RETENTION QUESTIONS INSTRUCTIONS
Marking the space next to the word "YES" indicates a vote FOR the retention.
Marking the space next to the word "NO" indicates a vote AGAINST the retention.
PREGUNTA A LA INSTUCCION DE RETENCION
Marcando el espacio al lado dela palabra "Si" indique un voto POR la retencion.
Marcando el espacio al lado dela palabra "NO" indique un voto ENCONTRA de la retencion.

**PA CONFERENCE
OF TEAMSTERS
ENDOSSED
VOTE
YES
TO RETAIN**

**JUSTICE CHRISTINE
DONOHUE**

**JUSTICE KEVIN M.
DOUGHERTY**

**JUSTICE DAVID
WECHT**

**JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
RETENTION ELECTION**

Juez del Tribunal Supremo Elección de Retencion

Shall Christine Donohue be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?
¿Deberá servir Christine Donohue por un término adicional como Juez de la Corte Supremo del Estado de Pennsylvania?

YES *Si*
 NO *NO*

**JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
RETENTION ELECTION**

Juez del Tribunal Supremo Elección de Retencion

Shall Kevin M Dougherty be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?
¿Deberá servir Kevin M Dougherty por un término adicional como Juez de la Corte Supremo del Estado de Pennsylvania?

YES *Si*
 NO *NO*

**JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT
RETENTION ELECTION**

Juez del Tribunal Supremo Elección de Retencion

Shall David Wecht be retained for an additional term as Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?
¿Deberá servir David Wecht por un término adicional como Juez de la Corte Supremo del Estado de Pennsylvania?

YES *Si*
 NO *NO*

**JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT
RETENTION ELECTION**

Juez del Tribunal Commonwealth Elección de Retencion

YES *Si*
 NO *NO*

**JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS RETENTION ELECTION**

Juez del Tribunal Primeras Instancias de Retencion

YES *Si*
 NO *NO*

**JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS RETENTION ELECTION**

Juez del Tribunal Primeras Instancias de Retencion

YES *Si*
 NO *NO*