

*International Brotherhood of*

**BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS**

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**TO ALL LOCAL LODGE PRESIDENTS, BUSINESS MANAGERS AND  
SECRETARY-TREASURERS IN THE U. S. AND CANADA**

*Re: Guidance on Number of Delegates to the Thirty-Fourth Consolidated Convention*

Brothers and Sisters:

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Thirty-Fourth Consolidated Convention is being held virtually. This pandemic has also placed a financial burden on many local lodges due to the decrease in work opportunities resulting in a loss in revenue. Therefore, the International is encouraging local lodges to elect the minimum number of delegates to participate in the virtual Convention.

While Article 2.2.1 – Local Lodge Voting Strength, of the International Brotherhood Constitution, allows lodges to have up to seven (7) delegates, there is no requirement to do so. The assets of the local lodge must be preserved for the purpose of protecting the interests of our members and their families. This, of course, includes maintaining an adequate financial reserve for the purpose of handling negotiations, contract administration, arbitration, lost-time wages and other day-to-day affairs with which each local lodge must deal.

Certainly, being represented at this Convention is of great importance to the local lodge but having more delegates than the local lodge can afford would not be in the best interest of the local lodge, its members, or the International Brotherhood.

Accordingly, I am recommending that each local lodge Executive Board meet to discuss this matter and that they make a recommendation to the local lodge regarding the number of delegates that the lodge can financially afford. This number should be reasonable and should not create a financial hardship on the local lodge or seriously deplete the local lodge assets.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Newton B. Jones  
International President

NBJ:tab  
cc: International Officers  
International Staff  
Interp. 2.2