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APRIL 13, 2023 - PHILADELPHIA, PA



New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro Announce Partnership to Strengthen Labor Law Enforcement, Protect Workers' Rights

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro visited the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) District Council 21 training facility in Philadelphia to tour the innovative center and [announce their intention](#) to form an interstate task force to address wage theft and worker misclassification in the two states. The interstate task force will work to better foster the collaborative enforcement of each state's labor laws, which include robust worker protections, while enabling healthy business competition between good actors.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania entered a regional Memorandum of Understanding agreement in 2019 to facilitate data sharing, joint investigations, and cooperative referrals. Today's commitment to a continued partnership between the two states bolsters those efforts and demonstrates Governor Shapiro's and Governor Murphy's ongoing focus on worker protections.

"I am thrilled to join Governor Shapiro today to reaffirm our commitment to strengthen labor law enforcement and to announce this new partnership between our states," said Governor Murphy. "Every day hard-working New Jerseyans and Pennsylvanians deserve to live without fear that their employers are taking advantage of their rights. With the formation of an interstate task force, our message will be clear - workers' rights are to be respected, defended, and upheld."

"We need to give students like those here at FTI the opportunity to chart their own course in life. That's why my budget includes comprehensive investments in career and technical education and apprenticeships," said Governor Josh Shapiro. "But our work can't stop at increasing opportunity - we also need to protect workers' rights once they're on the job. I'm proud to join Governor Murphy to announce that Pennsylvania and New Jersey will strengthen our partnership to stop wage theft and worker misclassification. Pennsylvanians and New Jerseyans work hard, and we will not let them be cheated out of the benefits they've earned."

Speakers Include:

Francis McLaughlin - Business Manager and Secretary - Finishing Trades Institute

Michael Laughlin - President - South Jersey Building Trades Council

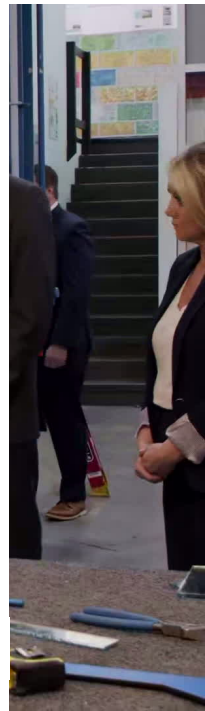
Dr. Thomas Kriger - Director of Education and Research - North America's Building Trades Unions

Christina McNeill, Commercial Paint Apprentice - Finishing Trades Institute

Governor Phil Murphy - State of New Jersey

Governor Josh Shapiro - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

PRESS RELEASE



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1 "... Thank you all." - Francis McLaughlin, Michael Laughlin, Dr. Thomas Kriger, Christina McNeill, Governor Phil Murphy, Governor Josh Shapiro

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