

IFPTE Honors James F. Robertello with the Len Cornwall 'Outstanding Unionist' Leadership Award

The Delegates of IFPTE's 60th Constitutional Convention are proud to present the Len Cornwall 'Outstanding Unionist' Leadership Award to IFPTE Local 196 Business Manager/Chapter 14 President, James F. Robertello.

Len Cornwall served the Federation and its Locals with distinction and honor from 1965 until his passing in 1997 when IFPTE created the Len Cornwall Leadership Award. This award is given at each IFPTE convention to a member who embodies Len's extraordinary willingness to give unselfishly of their time and talents for the betterment of their own family and their union family and community.

James "Jimmy Robo" Robertello is the embodiment of what the Len Cornwall Award stands for.

Brother Robertello's labor career started as a member of the Carpenters union, before coming to IFPTE in 1981 when he joined the New Jersey Parkway and IFPTE Local 196. Jimmy quickly became the toughest shop steward Local 196 has ever seen being suspended for months for his fierce belief in protecting the membership. He moved on to become an area officer for Chapter 1 and continues as a Local 196 Executive Officer - holding every office on the Board.

Among the decades-long sacrifices and service Brother Robertello has given to IFPTE and the labor movement: his lead on the anti-privatization campaign that saved thousands of IFPTE members' jobs; working with New Jersey lawmakers in successfully passing and enacting strong worker safety requirements for those working along New Jersey's busy highways; and assisting injured Union brothers and sisters and their families. Brother Robertello is also a long-time, invaluable friend to the IFPTE International, which constantly relies on his advocacy, fight, and counsel.

Brother Robertello's service, which continues today as Local 196 Business Manager, is too long to list. He continues to work to organize the unorganized, represent those in need of help, and fight in SOLIDARITY with IFPTE Locals throughout North America.

The IFPTE family thanks Brother James 'Jimmy Robo' Robertello for his invaluable contributions and is honored to present him with the Len Cornwall Leadership Award.