

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
PIPING INDUSTRY COUNCIL	)	
ROCKFORD AREA INCORPORATED;	)	STATE FILE NO. 2027-H-CC08-2364
MILLER ENGINEERING	)	
	)	DATE OF NOTICE: AUGUST 20, 2026
	)	
OBJECTORS,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
JANE R. FLANAGAN, DIRECTOR of the	)	
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,	)	
	)	
and	)	
	)	
THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,	)	
	)	
RESPONDENTS.	)	

**PETITION OF UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF
THE PLUMBING AND PIPEFITTING INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES AND
CANADA LOCAL UNION 23 U.A., FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE**

Proposed Intervenor, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of The Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of The United States and Canada, Local Union 23, U.A. ("Local 23" or "the Union"), by its undersigned counsel, respectfully moves for leave to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding. In support of this motion, Local 23 states as follows:

1. This proceeding concerns written objections to prevailing wage determinations and a request for hearing under Sections 4 and 9 of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act ("IPWA") filed by the Objectors on August 20, 2026 concerning workers in the Plumbing industry in Winnebago, Boone, Ogle, Carroll, and Jo Daviess Counties ("Affected Counties").

2. The Union is a labor organization affiliated with the United Association of Journeyman and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada which represents local members in the plumbing and pipefitting industry across the United States and Canada.

3. Local 23 is a party to, and is the exclusive bargaining representative of, bargaining unit members under the Labor Agreement referenced in the objections. Its bargaining-unit apprentices and journeypersons perform work within the Plumbing trade across the affected counties (*Exhibit A* to Written Objections and Request for Hearing).

4. The Illinois Department of Labor has noticed a Webex hearing before Administrative Law Judge Dawn Harden pursuant to the IPWA, the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, and 56 Ill. Admin. Code Part 120. The Department's Notice and August 20, 2026 Order further sets a pre-hearing conference and directs that "Any Petitions to Intervene shall be filed by September 2, 2026."

5. The Department has convened this matter under the IPWA and 56 Ill. Admin. Code Part 120, and expressly provided for the filing of petitions to intervene by the date stated above. Local 23 files this motion consistent with that Order and Part 120's governing procedures so that all interested and affected stakeholders may be heard and the record fully developed for decision.

6. 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.320(a)(1) provides that, upon timely written application, the Administrative Law Judge may permit a party to intervene in a hearing proceeding when:

"(A) the party is so situated that he or she may be adversely affected by a final order arising from the hearing; (B) the party requesting intervention is a necessary party to the hearing proceeding; or (C) a party's claim or defense and the main action have a question of law or fact in common."

7. The Union's apprentices are covered by the Labor Agreement, and their wage and fringe benefit treatment in the prevailing wage schedules will be directly affected by any final order

arising out of this proceeding. Accordingly, Local 23 has a direct, substantial, and protectable interest in the subject matter of this case that warrants intervention under 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.320(a)(1)(A).

8. The objections also present a common question of law concerning whether the Department has authority under the Prevailing Wage Act, as amended by Public Act 104-0017 and Public Act 104-0434, to establish the classification and rate sought by the Objectors. The Union contends the instant proceeding is not an appropriate vehicle to seek the relief at issue. Accordingly, intervention is also warranted under 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.320(a)(1)(C).

9. Local 23's participation will contribute relevant evidence and perspective concerning apprentice classifications, wage structures, and training programs under the governing collective bargaining agreement, thereby assisting the Administrative Law Judge in resolving issues raised in the objections without prejudice to existing parties.

10. This motion is filed within the timeframe the Department's Order sets for petitions to intervene, and Local 23 concurrently filed an appearance consistent with 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.220, as directed in the Order. Granting intervention will not delay the pre-hearing conference or the noticed hearing and will aid in simplifying issues and assuring a just conclusion as contemplated by the Order.

For the foregoing reasons, Local 23 respectfully requests that the Administrative Law Judge enter an order:

- a. granting Local 23 leave to intervene as a party in this proceeding;
- b. permitting Local 23 to participate fully in the pre-hearing conference and hearing, to file pleadings, submit evidence, and examine witnesses;
- c. directing that all future notices, orders, filings, and communications be served on the undersigned counsel for Local 23; and
- d. granting such other and further relief as is just.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9/1/26

/s/ Karl Masters

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NOTICE OF FILING

To: See Attached Service List

Please take notice that on September 1, 2026 the attached Petition of United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of The Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of The United States and Canada, Local Union 23, U.A., for Leave to Intervene and Attorney Appearance were filed with the Illinois Department of Labor by e-mail, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Date: September 1, 2026

Local Union 23, U.A.,
By: /s/ Karl E. Masters
One of Its Attorneys

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ATTORNEY APPEARANCE

Pursuant to 56 Ill. Admin. Code § 120.220 and the Department's Order directing attorneys to file their appearances, the undersigned submits this separate written notice of appearance in a representative capacity, together with notice of filing and proof of service on all parties.

1. Party represented: United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of The Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of The United States and Canada, Local Union 23, U.A.
2. Attorney representative: Karl Masters

The undersigned hereby appears on behalf of Local 23, U.A. in State File No. 2027-H-CC08-2364 before Administrative Law Judge Dawn Harden.

/s Karl Masters

Date: 9/1/26

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on September 1, 2026, I served the foregoing Motion for Leave to Intervene and Attorney Appearance in State File No. 2027-H-CC08-2364 via email and U.S. Mail upon the following:

Objectors' Counsel: Christina K. Wernick, Esq. Laner Muchin, Ltd. 515 North State Street, Suite 2400 Chicago, Illinois 60654 Telephone: (312) 467-9800 Email: cwernick@lanerlaw.com

Respondents' Counsel: Stephanie Barton, Esq. Deputy General Counsel Illinois Department of Labor 524 S 2nd Street, Suite 400 Springfield, IL 62701 Email: Stephanie.Barton@illinois.gov

Administrative Law Judge Dawn Harden: Two (2) Copies via regular mail Illinois Department of Labor, 115 South LaSalle Street, 37th Floor, Chicago IL, 60603 email: Dol.hearings@illinois.gov

/s Karl Masters

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