

## Former NALC Dir. of Life Insurance O'Connor has died

**F**ormer NALC Director of Life Insurance Michael J. O'Connor died on Feb. 28. He was 77.



O'Connor was born on June 20, 1939, in South Boston. A 1957 graduate of South Boston High School, he served in the Army before becoming a letter carrier. He was hired in 1969 by what was then the Post Office Department and quickly joined Boston Branch 34. He held several branch offices, such as shop steward, branch newsletter publisher, secretary-treasurer and president. He also served a term as president of the Massachusetts State Association of Letter Carriers and as one of NALC's elected delegates to AFL-CIO conventions.

O'Connor was elected in 1986 to be one of NALC's national trustees. In 1993, midway through a second term as trustee, he was appointed by NALC President Vincent Sombrotto to the office of assistant secretary-treasurer to fill a vacancy; a year later, O'Connor was elected to the first of two terms as director of life insurance, heading NALC's Mutual Benefit Association. He stepped down from that position in 2002.

O'Connor was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, on Jan. 10. He is survived by three sons, seven grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. **PR**

## Labor unions regain popularity

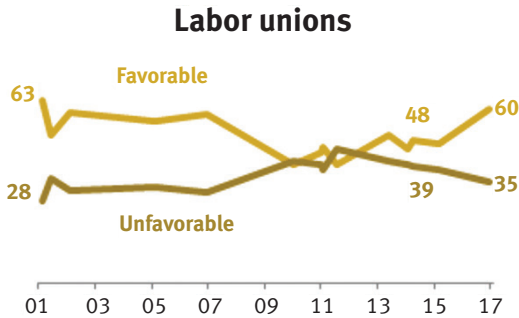
**S**ix out of 10 adults have a favorable view of labor unions, the strongest those numbers have been in nearly a decade, according to a Pew Research Center survey released in January. That number has shot up 12 percentage points from one year ago.

Strikingly, younger people are more likely than older adults to view labor unions favorably, with 75 percent of those aged 18 to 29 saying they have a favorable view of unions. The numbers

decrease among older Americans, with those aged 30 to 49 having 61 percent favorability, those 50 to 64 having 55 percent favorability and those 65 and older having only 50 percent favorability.

Those who have graduated from college as their highest education

level have the lowest favorability of unions at 52 percent, whereas those who have graduated from high school, those who have completed some college courses and those who have attained a postgraduate degree all view unions in the 62 to 64 percent range.



Note: "Don't know" responses not shown.  
Source: Survey conducted Jan. 4-9, 2017  
**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

of the 18 to 49 age group view unions favorably.

These views come despite declines in union membership, according to recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Last year saw a record low 10.7 percent of workers being union members. **PR**

Unsurprisingly, those who identify as Democrats hold a much more favorable view (76 percent) than those who identify as Republican (44 percent). However, even among Republicans, 55 percent

## NALC standing committees members

**The following standing committees were appointed by NALC President Fredric Rolando to serve through the end of the 2018 Detroit Convention:**

**Public Relations Committee**  
Dan Garhofer, Br. 28  
Larrissa Parde, Br. 8  
Paul Glavin Jr., Br. 4

**Convention Site Committee**  
Howard Komine, Br. 860  
James Korolowicz, Br. 4374  
Glenn Norton, Br. 2502

**Retirement Committee**  
Douglas Gulley, Br. 78  
Ernie Kirkland, Br. 361  
Jo Ann Pyle, Br. 79  
Mike Sheridan, Br. 4374  
John Walsh, Br. 29

**Special Review Committee**  
Paul Gillie, Br. 256  
Mack Julion, Br. 11  
Jim Langlois, Br. 55  
Phillip Rodriguez, Br. 111

**Nalcrest Trustees**  
Matthew Rose, Br. 1071  
Don Southern, Br. 1779  
Tom Young, Br. 1100

**Uniform Committee**  
Stafford Price Jr., Br. 11  
Gina Mendoza-Telck, Br. 226  
Greg Klopfer, Br. 562

**Scholarship Committee**  
Jacqueline White, Br. 24  
Sandra Laemmel, Br. 1  
Larry Kania, Br. 3