

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO CONSIDER REGARDING HEARINGS BEING HELD ON MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> AND 31ST**

- Trustees acted in the best interest of the entire membership
- After 14 months and much hard work, Labor and Management Trustees with input from our Professionals made these decisions.
- None of this was a surprise-Council and Local leadership communicated regularly regarding the state of the funds including Madoff
- Madoff was a fraud that even the Government missed-I don't see the SEC paying anyone back their money-Why should we!?
- Upstate Fund Trustees should have been more diversified don't make us pay for their mistakes
- 14 months with no input from the International-why would they get involved now?
- Since when does the International get involved with funds issues anyway
- Buffalo Funds asked for help from the International some years ago and none was given
- A change in the decisions made by the current Trustees of the Empire Fund will have a devastating effect on membership (shrinking membership numbers, watered down healthcare for both active and retirees, pension issues and financially for active members and also retirees drawing off annuity accounts in the current economic decline)

Helping our Brothers and Sisters out is not a problem but fair is fair they did not share gains with us but want us to take on their losses