

Local 704 Organizing Fact Sheet

Union Sprinkler Fitters Local 704 stands for workers in our industry.

Local 704 was chartered in June of 1921 and has provided its members with better job conditions, better benefits, including health care, pension plans and better pay for its members.

- Contrary to what the A.B.C. will tell you, our membership is on the rise.
- Only the owners of open shops belong to the A.B.C. NOT THE WORKERS. The Associated Builders and Contractors (A.B.C.) IS A UNION OF NON-UNION OWNERS. They believe it is OK for them to belong to a union but not for their employees.
- Many workers in the non-union sector have come to us and have become members. There have not been any members in recent times that have quit the union to join an Open shop company.
- There are many very good reasons for this.
- Let me ask you this, has anyone you know ever retired from the sprinkler industry working for an Open shop? There is a reason for this, Open shops do not provide for pension plans in the Detroit area like the plans that you would enjoy as a member of Local 704. They also do not provide the same level of health care for you and your family like you would enjoy by being a member.
- Ask yourself, how are you going to provide for you and your family as you get older? Can you ever retire with full health care benefits and two pensions like you could if you were a member of Local 704?
- Does the A.B.C. tell you that over 85% of the sprinkler work done in the Detroit area is done by Local 704 members?
- Does the A.B.C. tell you that Local 704 has maintained over 97% employment over the last 12 years?
- We are a group of people that is run by our membership.
- The biggest difference between working out of 704 and an open shop is better pay, better benefits and better job conditions.
- By being a member you have a say in the workplace. By working for an open shop you are at the mercy of the owner who usually looks out for him/her self first and not for you. They do not believe in paying a fair days wage for a fair days work.
- We stand for the workers in our industry and we invite you to contact us and learn more about our Local and make up your own mind what is best for you and your family. Together we are stronger, together we are we can improve the lives of the workers in the sprinkler industry.

I would like to end with this thought, most of our members retire at age 55 with two pension plans and full health care coverage. What will you be doing when you're 55?

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