

CHICAGO TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL 25



NEWS»

TEAMSTER JOINS DALEY, QUINN TO TALK TOURISM

Officials Highlight Thousands of Jobs Created By Visitor Industry

Teamsters Local 727 Vice President John T. Coli Jr. stood today with Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley to highlight the importance of the tourism industry on the local economy.

Coli joined the political leaders at Chicago's Navy Pier to emphasize the thousands of new jobs supported by the city and state's visitor industry, in an event attended by other labor leaders, community advocates and state legislators.

"Teamsters play a vital role in the strength and expansion of the tourism industry throughout Chicago and Illinois," said Coli. "It's rewarding to know our elected officials recognize the importance of our members, who will remain a powerful resource for improving economic growth."

Nearly 132,000 jobs were generated last year in Chicago as a result of the tourism industry, producing a citywide revenue stream of \$30.8 billion. Statewide, more than 303,000 jobs were created in 2008. Local 727 represents union members throughout the industry, including trade show and convention workers, taxicab drivers, garage employees and theatrical staff.

"We are doing all we can to support and expand our convention and tourism industry, and because of the thousands of jobs it creates it is one of our top economic development priorities," said Daley. "Chicago is one of the world's great destinations and when we attract visitors to Chicago we help create jobs for hardworking people."

Teamsters Local 727 represents approximately 5,000 hardworking men and women throughout Illinois, including members in the convention industry.