

The Force Behind the Organizing Success of the Five States Pipe Trades

Since the inception of the Five States Pipe Trades (5SPTs), its Organizers and the local union Organizers they work with have been responsible for organizing just over 700 qualified workers. To date, they have also signed 22 contractors, with more stacked in the pipeline. These numbers are impressive and have not gone unnoticed by the General Office. The jurisdictional area for the 5SPTs is over 550,000 square miles, which includes Colorado, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona, South Dakota (everything west of the Missouri River), and a portion of Nebraska. The 5SPTs Organizers—notably Lead Organizer Mike Hill, Organizers Brian McKee, Geoff Herrig, Sonny Welch, Ben Gundry, Frank Garcia, Chad Jessee, and Cole Silcox—have been the engine behind the success of the latest organizing initiatives. The local union Organizers who have been working with 5SPTs are John Ashley, Plumbers Local 3, Denver, CO; Josh Wakeham, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 469, Phoenix, AZ; Demetrius Finister, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 525, Las Vegas, NV; and Nathan Green, Sprinklerfitters Local 669, Columbia, MD, and they have been instrumental in the 5SPTs' success.

*Do you want to know
who you are?
Don't Ask. Act!
Action will delineate
and define you.*

- Thomas Jefferson



Newly organized Local 525, Las Vegas, NV, members had been working for a non-union contractor prior to the Five States Pipe Trades Organizing team stepping in to help them navigate a path to a better life with the United Association.