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Contact: Evan Henerson, 818-884-8966 ext 1102

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evan@sendersgroup.com

Labor 411, LA County Federation of Labor Make a Pitch for Second Chances and Union Apprenticeships

Second Chance Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp Graduate Isreal Guillen to Throw Out First Pitch at Union Night at Dodger Stadium

Los Angeles – After successfully transitioning from a life in prison to earning steady work as a union apprentice, Isreal Guillen will take his pro-union “pitch” to Chavez Ravine. Guillen, a recent graduate of the Second Chance Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp program, will throw out a ceremonial first pitch Friday night, August 11 during the Union Night at Dodger Stadium pre-game festivities. Labor 411 and the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO are partnering with the Dodgers for the event before the game between the Boys in Blue and the visiting San Diego Padres.

“Even though I had a past, the organizations involved with the Second Chance Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp took a chance on me, and I could not be more grateful,” says Guillen, who served 22 years of a life sentence for an offense committed when he was 20 years old. “Being part of a union really gives me a sense of pride and worthiness, and now with the support of my union brothers and sisters, I’m facing an exciting future.”

The Bootcamp places formerly incarcerated individuals into paid apprenticeships that lead to good union jobs.

“The Second Chance Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp is a joint undertaking between four core partners: the LA Fed, the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, and Los Angeles Trade-Technical College. We believe in second chances no matter your background, and this program accomplishes just that,” says Rusty Hicks, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. “Over the course of the 12-week program, Isreal and the other graduates applied themselves to being leaders in their communities. They demonstrated that with great character and perseverance, every challenge can be overcome.”

Union members, their families and friends can visit www.Dodgers.com/Union to purchase a special Union Night package which includes a limited edition t-shirt and a pre-game on-field celebration of Labor. The evening will also include a spectacular post-game fireworks display.

“Dodger Stadium is one of the most union-friendly places in Los Angeles,” says Labor 411 Founder and Publisher Cherri Senders. “We congratulate all of our Union Night partners and participants and look forward to

21201 Victory Blvd. #235, Canoga Park, CA 91303 • Phone: 818-884-8966 • Fax: 818-884-7706

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joining them at Dodger Stadium to watch the Boys in Blue continue their quest to bring a World Series trophy back to L.A.

Founded in 2008, Labor 411's print and online guides now include more than 10,000 listings covering hotels, restaurants, retail outlets and other businesses in four of the nation's top consumer markets: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington DC and Philadelphia with New York to join the lineup in 2018. In addition, Labor 411's website (www.labor411.org), allows consumers to pinpoint by neighborhood where their shopping dollars can support living-wage companies and their communities and avoid retailers that do not treat their workers well.

For more information, visit labor411.org or BuyBlueforAmerica.org.

Media availability: Isreal Guillen and Cherri Senders are available for interviews.

What: Second Chance Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp Graduate Isreal Guillen to throw out ceremonial first pitch during Union Night at Dodger Stadium

When: Friday, August 11. Pre-game festivities start at 6 p.m.

Where: Dodger Stadium

Tickets: www.dodgers.com/union.