

January 4th, 2021 – Covid-19!

Thank You for your Interest in the IBEW 7th District / NECA Foreman Development Series!

The 7th District's FDS Committee normally puts on 3 or 4 "Train the Trainer" Sessions each year in Austin, Texas. To insure the quality of the FDS program we do these TTT sessions so we can teach your instructors both the FDS materials and how to teach the materials properly before they can go back to your jurisdiction and start teaching these classes.

In the time of Covid-19 we don't feel we can safely put these Train the Trainer sessions on. The FDS Committee has discussed the possibility of putting these TTT sessions on remotely via Zoom, etc. but we don't think it would achieve the desired level of experience.

Although we have heard of several areas putting on local FDS classes via Zoom, most jurisdictions have suspended their local FDS classes during this time of Covid because the very valuable group dynamics and interaction is lost when the classes are taught remotely.

Articles have mentioned the fact that 95% of all Foremen working in the Construction industries today have received no foreman training whatsoever. That is just a crazy way of doing business! We feel that there is a desperate need in our industry for trained and qualified Foremen. Both the IBEW and NECA will benefit.

When we can resume is anyone's guess but maybe by the Fall of 2021? Please don't give up on us! As the FDS Committee we feel very strongly about the FDS program. We aren't going anywhere and will be back spreading our Foreman Training knowledge as soon as possible.

If you would like to participate in the next Train the Trainer Session in Austin, whenever that turns out to be, please e-mail Angie Burris; angie_burris@ibew.org or call her at the 7th District main office; 817-557-1611 to be put on the waiting list.

If you would like additional information on the FDS program, e-mail Tom Ross; tross3333@outlook.com or call him at 505-977-5458. You might have to leave a message but he will get back to you.

THANK YOU, the FDS Committee:

Tom Ross

Sean Wallace

Ryan Prendergast

Karsten Frentrup

Chad Privratsky