A historical timeline of...

Teamsters Local 243

A dedicated local union with a rich history of fighting, and winning, for rank-and-file Teamsters.

March 25, 1904
Local Union #243 officially charters as “Teamsters.”
Location: Rockland, Massachusetts

June 28, 1906
Teamsters Local #243 dissolves following a merger with Teamsters Local #272.

January 23, 1909
Teamsters Local #243 charters again, this time as the “Retail Delivery Drivers and Helpers.”
Location: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

March, 1909
Due to a lack of membership, Teamsters Local #243 is forced to dissolve.

October 1, 1909
Teamsters Local #243 charters for a third time as the “Capital City Brotherhood of Teamsters.”
Location: Lansing, Michigan

August 8, 1911
Lack of membership once again forces Local #243 to dissolve.

June 24, 1913
Teamsters Local #243 charters as “General Teamsters.”
Location: Woodland, California

June 24, 1913
Local #243 dissolves the very same day due to a lack of membership.

April 14, 1916
Teamsters Local #243 charters for a fifth time as “General Teamsters.”
Location: Lima, Ohio

January 21, 1919
After a nearly three-year run, Local #243 dissolves due to lack of membership.

February 25, 1920
Local #243 charters as “Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers.”
Location: Cairo, Illinois
September 29, 1920
After just over six months, Local #243 is forced to dissolve due to a lack of membership.

September 10, 1921
Local #243 charters as the “Auto Bus Drivers.”
Location: Houston, Texas

January 11, 1926
Local #243 dissolves just shy of six years of service due to a lack of membership.

June 10, 1932
Teamsters Local #243, the Local Union we are proud members of today, charters as the “Van, Furniture Movers, Drivers and Helpers.”
Location: 1500 West Fort St., Detroit, Michigan

Officers & Agents:
Eugene L. Schnitzler, Secretary-Treasurer

September 22, 1933
Detroit-Area Teamster local unions charter as Teamsters District Council (presently known as Teamsters Joint Council #43).

Officers & Agents:
R. Passage, President
A Smart, Vice President
Eugene Schnitzler, Secretary-Treasurer
Charles Klien, Recording Secretary
Lester Blasingille, Trustee
Steven Spencer, Trustee
F. Blake, Trustee

June 6, 1934
Local #243 recharter as “Van Drivers and Helpers, Furniture Handlers, Warehousemen and Packers.”

Officers & Agents:
Manney R. Harvey, President
Louis LaRochelle, Vice President
Eugene L. Schnitzler, Secretary-Treasurer
William Langhern, Recording Secretary
Daniel A. Collins, Trustee, 3 Year
Chas Streby, Trustee, 2 Year
Anthony Boguslaw, Trustee, 1 Year

December 10, 1940
Teamsters Local #243 recharter as “Van Drivers, Furniture Handlers, Warehousemen and Packers.”

Officers & Agents:
John Emmert, President
Harold Duntz, Vice President
Frank Singer, Secretary-Treasurer
Thomas J. Nork, Recording Secretary
William Langhorn, Trustee, 3 Year
Charles Streby, Trustee, 2 Year
Louis LaRochelle, Trustee, 1 Year
William Hopkins, Business Representative

January, 1942
Teamsters Local #243 relocates its office to 2741 Trumbull Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

January 1, 1946
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
John L. Emmert, President
James Giles, Vice President
William Hopkins, Secretary-Treasurer
William Langhern, Recording Secretary
Jay Rich, Conductor
Jos. Smichowski, Warden
Charles Hammond, Trustee, 3 Year
Louis Pastor, Trustee, 2 Year
Lester Wilcox, Trustee, 1 Year
John L. Emmert, Business Representative

Cornelius Shea was the first president of the Teamsters Union.
January 1, 1952
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
John L. Emmert, President
Douglas Uhlig, Vice President
Louis Pastor, Secretary-Treasurer
William Langhern, Recording Secretary
Daniel McCaig, Trustee, 3 Year
James L. Brewer, Trustee, 2 Year
Leslie Wilcox, Trustee, 1 Year

January 1, 1956
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
John L. Emmert, President
Douglas Uhlig, Vice President
Louis Pastor, Secretary-Treasurer
William Langhern, Recording Secretary
Daniel McCaig, Trustee, 3 Year
James L. Brewer, Trustee, 2 Year
Leslie Wilcox, Trustee, 1 Year

January 1, 1961
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Daniel McCaig, President
Henry Grosser, Vice President
Louis Pastor, Secretary-Treasurer
William Langhern, Recording Secretary
Frank Meyers, Trustee, 3 Year
Richard Ball, Trustee, 2 Year
Walter Metcalf, Trustee, 1 Year

January 1, 1964
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Daniel McCaig, President
Walter W. Metcalf, Vice President
Francis H. Meyers, Secretary-Treasurer
James Brewer, Trustee
Richard Ball, Trustee
Harold Novak, Trustee

January 1, 1967
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Daniel McCaig, President
Walter W. Metcalf, Vice President
Charles R. Coy, Secretary-Treasurer
John McClintock, Recording Secretary
Richard E. Ball, Trustee
Harold Novak, Trustee
Austin McKinley, Trustee

January 1, 1970
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Daniel McCaig, President
Walter W. Metcalf, Vice President
Charles R. Coy, Secretary-Treasurer
John McClintock, Recording Secretary
Richard E. Ball, Trustee
John Degroat, Trustee
Austin McKinley, Trustee

January 1, 1973
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Charles R. “Bob” Coy, President
Harvey Christine, Vice President
John McClintock, Secretary-Treasurer
John Degroat, Recording Secretary
Rosario Grammatico, Trustee
Vincent Gillis, Trustee
Nicholas Kales, Trustee
Richard E. Ball, Business Representative
Daniel McCaig, Business Representative
January 1, 1976
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
C. R. “Bob” Coy, President
James Esser, Vice President
John McClintock, Secretary-Treasurer
John Degroat, Recording Secretary
Elizabeth “Betty” Cardinal, Trustee
Vincent Gillis, Trustee
Rosario “Roy” Grammatico, Trustee
David Somerville, Business Rep./Organizer
Nicholas Kales, Business Representative

January 1, 1979
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
C. R. “Bob” Coy, President
John Degroat, Vice President
James Esser, Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth Cardinal, Recording Secretary
David Somerville, Trustee
Vincent Gillis, Trustee
Leon Cooper, Trustee
Joseph Franco, Organizer

January 1, 1982
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
C. R. “Bob” Coy, President
John Degroat, Vice President
James Esser, Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth Cardinal, Recording Secretary
David Somerville, Trustee
Vincent Gillis, Trustee
Leon Cooper, Trustee

January 1, 1985
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
James F. Esser, President
C. R. “Bob” Coy, Vice President
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth Cardinal, Recording Secretary
David Somerville, Trustee
Vincent Gillis, Trustee
Leon Cooper, Trustee

January 1, 1988
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
James F. Esser, President
Leon Cooper, Vice President
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth Cardinal, Recording Secretary
Gregory J. Lowran, Trustee
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Dave Wituiski, Trustee
William Duttman, Business Representative

January 1, 1991
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
James F. Esser, President
Leon Cooper, Vice President
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth Cardinal, Recording Secretary
Gregory J. Lowran, Trustee
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Dave Wituiski, Trustee
William Duttman, Business Representative
Tom Ziembovic, Business Representative
Marian Novak, Business Representative

IBT General President James R. Hoffa.
Local 243 President Daniel McCaig.
Local 243 President C.R. Bob Coy.
Local 243 President James F. Esser
Local 243 President Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo
January 1, 1994
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
James F. Esser, President
Leon Cooper, Vice President
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, Secretary-Treasurer
Elizabeth Cardinal, Recording Secretary
Gregory J. Lowran, Trustee
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Dave Wituiski, Trustee
Tom Ziembovic, Business Rep./Organizer
Marian Novak, Business Rep./Organizer
Joseph Clark, Organizer

January 1, 1997
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Leon Cooper, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Sandra Miskell, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Dave Wituiski, Trustee
Marian Novak, Business Rep./Organizer
Joseph Clark, Organizer

January 1, 2000
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Leon Cooper, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Sandra Miskell, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Dave Wituiski, Trustee
Thomas Weldon, Trustee

January 1, 2003
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Thomas Weldon, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Lynn Hayes, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Ron Wilkins, Trustee
David Bailey, Trustee

Local 243 organized a successful public boycott of Highland Appliance in the 1980s as members fought with management for a fair union contract.

Local 243 President Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo with IBT General President Jim Hoffa and General Secretary-Treasurer Ken Hall at UPS negotiations.
November, 2004
Teamsters Local Union No. 243 relocates offices after establishing a new Union hall at 39420 Schoolcraft, Plymouth Twp., Michigan.

January 1, 2006
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Thomas Weldon, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Lynn Haynes, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Ron Wilkins, Trustee
David Bailey, Trustee
Douglas Robinson, Business Representative

January 1, 2009
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Thomas Weldon, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Lynn Guzman, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
Ron Wilkins, Trustee
David Bailey, Trustee
Douglas Robinson, Business Representative

January 1, 2012
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Thomas Weldon, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Lynn Guzman, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
John Lott, Trustee
David Bailey, Trustee
Douglas Robinson, Business Representative

January 1, 2015
Local #243 Executive Board term begins.

Officers & Agents:
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Douglas Robinson, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Lynn Guzman, Recording Secretary
Richard Oliver, Trustee
John Lott, Trustee
David Bailey, Trustee
International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 243 has come a long way from that very first membership meeting in Massachusetts back in 1904. Our Union has survived and thrived during some difficult and challenging times.

Local 243 began slowly and initially struggled to find a foothold within the growing industrial sector.

However, once the Union was established, Local 243 expanded quickly. Decades of hard work and tough battles on behalf of working men and women, earned Local 243 a solid reputation as an effective voice for rank-and-file members and one of Michigan’s premier Teamster local unions.

Local 243 has not only had a successful past, but it also has a bright future. Today, our Union continues its historic fight for the jobs, benefits and rights of working men and women.

March, 2015
Members of Teamsters Local #580 vote to merge with Local #243. This action creates a larger and more effective local union to address the changing problems and issues facing members across Michigan.

Metro-Detroit Union Office:
39420 Schoolcraft
Plymouth Township, Michigan

Lansing Union Office:
5800 Executive Drive
Lansing, Michigan

Current Teamsters Local 243 Executive Board Officers and Business Agents
Jim “Cinci” Cianciolo, President
Douglas Robinson, Vice President
Gregory J. Lowran, Secretary-Treasurer
Michael Parker, Recording Secretary
David Bailey, Trustee
Lynne Meade, Trustee
Ernest Bell, Trustee
Christine Linnell, Business Representative
Neil Pettit, Business Representative
Scott Quenneville, Business Representative