

Robert G. Reiter, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

For Bob Reiter, the labor movement has always had an influence on his life. His parents instilled the values of solidarity and social justice in Bob from a young age, and as he got older, he realized that everywhere he went and everything he did kept bringing him back to the labor movement. He is a third-generation member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150. He started working with Local 150 while in college.

Bob's appreciation for the history of labor informs his understanding of the need to reposition the labor movement in light of its history. Throughout his career, he has worked as a labor attorney, an organizer, a negotiator and a lobbyist. When the opportunity to join the Chicago Federation of Labor as the Secretary-Treasurer presented itself, Bob saw this as an opportunity to bring the values that his parents taught him to a bigger stage, allowing him to affect people's lives in a way he could not do at his local.

While each union has its own unique successes and failures, the broader issues and struggles are universally the same. Bob's role as the Secretary-Treasurer is to be the voice of every CFL affiliated union on these big picture issues. One of his responsibilities through his role as the Secretary-Treasurer is to represent the interests of labor throughout Chicago and Cook County. Through his work as a Board member for the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, Bob is helping to strengthen the economy of Chicago by bringing tradeshows, conventions and other public events to Chicago. His involvement with various community groups, including Chicago Jobs with Justice's Executive Committee and Arise Chicago's Executive Board, allows him to fight for the rights of workers through education, organizing and shaping public discourse. As a member of the Citizen Action/Illinois Policy Council, Bob has the opportunity to influence the organization's public policy positions, the legislative agenda and any candidate endorsements for public office. On the Metropolitan Planning Council Resource Board, Bob is helping to build a strong economy and reinvigorate Chicago's neighborhoods. Bob is also lending his voice to issues related to international trade, meeting periodically with dignitaries from various European countries and by serving as a panelist on the TTIP Chicago Summit with experts from the agricultural, manufacturing and financial industries.

Bob holds a bachelor's and master's degree in political science from Eastern Illinois University, and a Juris Doctor degree from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law. He currently resides in Orland Park, IL. with his wife, Diana, and their two children.