

# Mark Phongsavath

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## Executive Summary

Workforce development advocate and labor leader with over a decade of experience in Hawaii's electrical industry progressing from electrical apprentice to journeyman and now Lead Organizer with IBEW Local Union 1186. Experienced in apprenticeship training, workforce pipeline development, contractor relations, and labor-management collaboration. Committed to strengthening Hawaii's skilled trades workforce, expanding career opportunities through apprenticeship programs, and supporting policies that promote sustainable economic growth and workforce development across the state.

## Professional Experience

### Lead Organizer – IBEW Local Union 1186, Honolulu, HI (2022–Present)

- Lead organizing and workforce development initiatives within Hawaii's electrical and telecommunications industries.
- Work with contractors, training programs, and industry partners to expand access to registered apprenticeship programs.
- Coordinate workforce outreach and mentorship initiatives that support career pathways in the skilled trades.
- Facilitate collaboration between workers, employers, and training organizations to address workforce shortages.

### Electrical Journeyman – D. Suehiro Electric, Inc., Honolulu, HI (2019–2022)

- Performed electrical installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting on commercial and residential construction projects.
- Worked closely with contractors and project teams to deliver safe, code-compliant electrical systems.

### Electrical Apprentice – Rosendin Electric, Honolulu, HI (2015–2019)

- Completed a multi-year electrical apprenticeship while working on large commercial construction projects.
- Gained hands-on training in electrical systems, safety standards, and industry best practices.

## **Workforce Leadership & Industry Engagement**

- Support mentorship and leadership development programs for new workers entering the electrical trades.
- Coordinate training initiatives including Code of Excellence, IBEW STRONG, and COMET workforce education programs.
- Engage with community partners to promote career awareness and workforce opportunities in the construction trades.

## **Workforce Policy & Industry Perspective**

- Provide frontline industry insight on workforce needs within Hawaii's construction and electrical sectors.
- Advocate for policies that strengthen apprenticeship programs and expand access to skilled trade careers.
- Participate in discussions with industry leaders, contractors, and policymakers regarding workforce challenges and opportunities.

## **Education**

Inside Wireperson Apprenticeship Program – NJATC Electrical Training Alliance (2015–2020)

University of Phoenix – Honolulu, Hawaii (2012–2015) – Business Management

## **Professional Training & Affiliation**

- Code of Excellence Training
- IBEW STRONG Training
- COMET (Construction Organizing Membership Education Training)
- Member, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186