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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 23, 2019

POCINO ON GOV. ROSSELLÓ: NOT RUNNING AGAIN ISN'T ENOUGH, HE MUST RESIGN FOR THE GOOD OF PUERTO RICO AND ITS HARD-WORKING MEN & WOMEN

Monroe – Raymond M. Pocino, Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA) issued the following statement today regarding Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló:

"Governor Rosselló's announcement that he will not seek reelection and is stepping down as the head of his party are certainly steps in the right direction, but they are not enough. For the good of the working men and women of Puerto Rico, the governor must resign his office immediately.

"I take pride in the accomplishments LiUNA has achieved in partnership with the governor. To-date, we have improved the working conditions for men and women on the island by:

- *Increasing the minimum wage for laborers to \$15/hour;*
- *Creating the LIUNA Construction and Education Training Academy of Puerto Rico to help develop and sustain a skilled workforce on the island;*
- *Successfully securing designation for LiUNA Puerto Rico's apprenticeship program as the first and only apprenticeship program approved by the federal Department of Labor and the Puerto Rico Department of Economic Development and Commerce;*
- *Assuring labor and apprenticeship interests are represented by naming Puerto Rico District Council President John Vigueras to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Board (WIOA);*
- *Mobilizing volunteer work brigades to provide immediate disaster relief in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria – and we continue to have thousands of members working to rebuild the island.*

"For the governor not to recognize he is a distraction from the vast amount of work still left to do to rebuild the island is careless.

Feel the Power

“Again, we are grateful for the progress we have made for the working men and women of Puerto Rico in partnership with the governor. But as we look into the future, it is critical that the hard-working men and women of Puerto Rico have sustainable, ethical leadership of their government. The island is still in desperate need of billions of dollars in economic aid. That aid is not likely to come from Washington with unstable and dysfunctional leadership on the island.

“It has become clear that Governor Rosselló no longer represents the stable, ethical governance that the island’s working people need. Those hard-working men and women and their families deserve better. He must resign now.”

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