

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 23, 2018

**Statement from Howard Rothschild, President of the Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations, On Board of Directors Unanimous Approval of Residential Contract**

“We are pleased to announce that RAB’s Board of Directors unanimously approved the tentative labor agreement with 32BJ that was reached on April 13, 2018. We look forward to the completion of 32BJ’s ratification process and are proud to have achieved a successful contract for both sides.”

**Background**

Through the new contract, RAB and 32BJ strengthened their longstanding commitment to a respectful and safe work environment for all employees. Both sides agreed on policies that aim to better ensure no resident or employee should have to deal with discrimination or harassment.

The new contract also ensures that New York City’s 32BJ members will continue to be among the highest paid residential building service workers in the country in one of the most heavily unionized job sectors in the city. The agreement included an average wage increase of 2.73%, which will bring the total wage for a typical doorman or porter to \$55,017 by the end of the contract. The average annual wage and benefit increase will be 3.32%, or approximately 13.28% in total, over the four-year contract.

32BJ members will continue to receive full family health insurance covering medical, dental, optical and prescription drug coverage. Under the tentative agreement, employees will continue to receive a defined benefit pension and a 401K annuity with an employer contribution.

The union’s ratification vote process should be complete by mid-May. Once ratified, the contract will extend to April 20, 2022.

**The Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations, Inc., (RAB)**

The Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations (RAB) was formed in 1933 as an organization through which employers in the building service industry could bargain with the union. The RAB represents building owners in one of the most unionized industries in New York City and its building service workers are among one of the highest paid in the country.

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