

# Congressman Dons UPS Uniform

## Rep. John Lewis Visits Atlanta Hub, Talks to Teamsters

It's not every day that UPS Teamsters get to talk to a member of Congress—unless you're Stanley Phillips.

Phillips, a member of Local 728 in Atlanta, makes deliveries almost every day to the Georgia office of Rep. John Lewis, a Democrat, civil rights icon and longtime friend of the Teamsters Union.

Rep. Lewis is currently up for reelection and stopped by an Atlanta-area UPS hub in July—in a full UPS uniform—to talk to workers at the company whose hub sits in the district he represents.

“Rep. Lewis is a family friend and I’m in his office almost daily,” said Phillips, who has worked for UPS for 29 years. “I have always enjoyed talking to him about politics and other issues. He and my father are friends and they go way back to the civil rights days.”

### Lewis' Legs

“When I am talking to business people in Atlanta and in other parts of the country, I use UPS as an



example of how unions and corporate management can build a winning team,” Rep. Lewis said.

“Periodically, I have visited UPS over the years to tour their facilities, to hear from their employees and executives about how they have expanded and what they believe their challenges are in the future. Every year I meet with hundreds of families who come to Washington or to downtown Atlanta. From time to time, I also like to visit with the corporate families in my district to feel the pulse of the operations and check on the health of those companies.”

While it was not the first time Rep. Lewis visited a UPS facility, it was his first time in uniform there. Of his in-uniform visit, he told the Washington Post, “Most people have never, ever seen me in shorts...Some people said I had nice legs.”

### A Friend of Labor

Rep. Lewis played a key role in the struggle to end segregation and has represented Georgia's Fifth Congressional District since 1987.

He has been actively involved with the Teamsters Union and with the American labor movement for years, and said that UPS definitely benefits from having a highly unionized work force.

“Whenever I visit a business, I make sure to take time to talk to the workers. We discussed how UPS provides its permanent part-time employees with excellent benefits, including health care and pensions. The benefit packages are comparable to what many full-time employees receive,” he said.

Those great benefits wouldn't be in place without a Teamster contract, and Phillips said his local has always been great at policing that contract.

“Local 728 has always been there for me,” Phillips said. “They do some great things over there as far as making sure everybody is watched over.”