

Rochelle Ramsey-Walker

Tradeswomen Heroes Award

Winner - April 2021



Level of Experience: Journeyworker

Years in Trade: 4

Union: IUPAT

Local: 368

Bio

Rochelle Ramsey-Walker learned about IUPAT when she joined a pre-apprenticeship program in New York called, NEW Nontraditional Employment for Women - a curriculum developed in collaboration with union apprenticeship directors and employers that offered participants hands-on training, health and safety components, job readiness, and an industry overview. While attending classes, Rochelle was introduced to an instructor from IUPAT District Council 9 who helped connect a career path that would align with her passion for drawing/painting and encouraged her to apply to DC9 Commercial Paint, Decorator & Drywall apprenticeship program. Excited to work and continue her education in the industry, Rochelle did not stop pursuing her newly found career path when DC 9 had a 2 years waiting list. One of the advantages of being a union member is that you have opportunities to relocate and that she did, to the DC51 DMV area. It was there, she advanced through the program as the only woman. Being the only woman in her class at that time, Rochelle felt it was not only her duty to encourage, but to inspire the next generation of women that can have a successful career in this industry. As part of these efforts, she became a union organizer and established with other like-minded individuals a Women's



Committee for the tradeswomen of DC 51.

Creating a safe space for women to collaborate, gain support, increase our membership and celebrate each other's victories is what the mission is about!

Why Rochelle Was Nominated

DC 51 nominates Rochelle because she is living proof that women can lead a successful career in the construction industry. She has accomplished a lot in the past 4 years and we look forward to following her journey as an individual and with IUPAT !