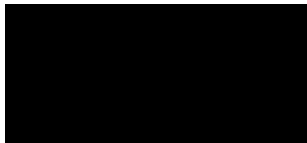


U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Labor-Management Standards
Division of Enforcement
Washington, DC 20210
(202) 693-0143 Fax: (202) 693-1343



January 30, 2017

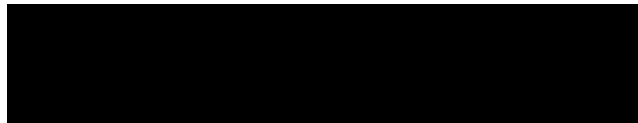


Dear [REDACTED]

This is to advise you of the disposition of your complaint filed with the Secretary of Labor alleging that violations of Title III of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (LMRDA), occurred with respect to the trusteeship imposed by the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) over Local 987 in Warner Robins, Georgia.

Pursuant to Sections 304 and 601 of the LMRDA, an investigation was conducted by the Office of Labor-Management Standards. After carefully reviewing the investigative findings, and after consulting with the Solicitor of Labor, we have determined that legal action is not warranted in this case. We are, therefore, closing our file as of this date. The basis for this decision is set forth in the enclosed Statement of Reasons.

Sincerely,



Sharon Hanley
Chief, Division of Enforcement

cc: Beverly Dankowitz, Associate Solicitor
Civil Rights and Labor-Management Division

U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Labor-Management Standards
Division of Enforcement
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January 30, 2017

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Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Sharon Hanley
Chief, Division of Enforcement

cc: Beverly Dankowitz, Associate Solicitor
Civil Rights and Labor-Management Division

**Statement of Reasons for Dismissing a Complaint
Alleging the American Federation of Government Employees
Improperly Imposed a Trusteeship over Local 547**

The Department of Labor (Department) received a complaint alleging a violation of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (CSRA) and the Department's regulations at 29 C.F.R. §§ 458.26-28, concerning the trusteeship that the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) imposed over Local 987, located in Warner Robins, Georgia, on August 11, 2016. The complaint alleged that the AFGE imposed a trusteeship over Local 987 to allow the former officers of Local 987 to regain political control of the local.

As a result of the investigation, the Department has concluded, with respect to the specific allegation, that there was no violation of the CSRA. The investigation disclosed that the trusteeship was established in accordance with the AFGE constitution, the CSRA, and section 458.26 of the Department's regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 458.26, for an allowable purpose. Following is an explanation of this conclusion.

Section 458.26 of the Department's regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 458.26, provides that a parent body may establish and administer a trusteeship over a subordinate body only in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the organization which has assumed the trusteeship over the subordinate body. A parent body may impose a trusteeship over a subordinate body for an allowable purpose, including to correct corruption or financial malpractice, or to otherwise carry out the legitimate objects of the labor organization.

The Department's investigation showed that the AFGE imposed a trusteeship over Local 987 to safeguard and protect the local and to otherwise carry out the legitimate duties and objectives of the local. Specifically, the investigation disclosed that preliminary findings of an audit conducted by the AFGE, which were corroborated by a hearing on the trusteeship, showed that Local 987 officers made union expenditures, without prior approval of the membership, including unauthorized use of the local's credit cards for fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015, and the first six months of 2016. The audit also showed that Local 987 did not create or retain supporting documentation for expenditures, failed to engage in competitive bidding for certain expenditures, and that local officers attempted to interfere with an audit conducted by the AFGE Secretary Treasurer's office. Based on these findings, the trusteeship was imposed for an allowable purpose, in accordance with section 458.26 of the Department's regulations. Because the trusteeship was imposed for an allowable purpose that is factually

supported, it is not necessary to address your assertions that an underlying motive for the trusteeship was political.

In addition, section 458.28 of the Department's regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 458.28, provides that a trusteeship must be established in conformity with the procedural requirements of the parent body's constitution and authorized or ratified after a fair hearing. The investigation disclosed that a hearing panel conducted a fair hearing on the trusteeship on September 22, 2016, in accordance with the procedural requirements of the AFGE constitution. The hearing panel issued a recommendation and decision ratifying the trusteeship.

It, therefore, is concluded that the AFGE established a trusteeship over Local 987 for an allowable purpose under section 458.26 of the Department's regulations, in conformity with the procedural requirements of the AFGE's constitution. The trusteeship is presumed to be valid for a period of eighteen months from the date of its establishment, in accordance with section 458.28 of the Department's regulations.

We are closing our file on this matter.