

President's Message

Mark McDonald, President AFGE Local 2040

President's Message: We lobbied Congress, sent letters/emails/faxes to our Representatives. Other members traveled across the country to support the efforts of their sister locals in educating their members about the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) or Rumsfeld bill. Here is what happened as a direct result of our efforts:

1. The draft regulation DoD submitted February 6, 2004 is "off the table" and DoD is starting from scratch.
2. DoD is authorizing official time for up to 30 DoD employee representatives paying for travel and per diem for the first three meetings to develop the regulations of NSPS. These regulations will then be published in the Congressional Record and soon thereafter take effect.
3. The Senior DOD staff that developed the original February draft have been removed from this project, reassigned and will not be working on this team.
4. All 41 National Unions impacted have each designated AFGE as the Spokesperson.
5. The first meeting will start 29 June 2004. Gerald Swanke (11th District VP- our District) will participate in the meeting.

Amazing what employees can accomplish when they come together on work issues. That is what the Union is all about. Together we made our voices heard.

Voter Registrations: The Office of Special Council has ruled that AFGE can not hold voter registration drives in the office. We already did ours so we don't have to worry about it. Besides, you can always go out the Colorado state web site and register to vote. Its easy, they even accept faxes. There is a link on our web page www.afge171.org you can click on to register to vote. AFGE's General Counsel (the lawyers) have issued a position paper disputing the OSC ruling and have asked DFAS to clarify it memo concerning this.

Register and vote. Get your family members and friends to register and vote. EVERY VOTE DOES COUNT!



BBQ: Our annual BBQ was a resounding success! We served over 1,000 plates almost five times what we served last year. Thanks to Kelvin Booker and Mike Molina for making it possible.

Constitution Changes: Proposed amendments to the Local's Constitution will be presented to the membership at the June membership meeting. The proposed Constitution is also posted on our web site at: www.afge171.org/2040.HTM

Members in good standing will vote to accept or reject the proposed Constitution at the July 2004 Membership Meeting.

Union Cards: If you were paying dues in August 2003, you should have received a new Union Membership card. If you have not, send me an email and I will contact National for you.

Eboard Meetings: Normally the second Tuesday of each month in the Union office. Open to members in good standing. Contact the President if you wish to attend to get the start time.

Membership Meeting: Next meeting will be 15 June at 1100 in the Weber Auditorium. Lunch will be provided.

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