Office of Labor-Management Standards Birmingham Resident Investigator Office Medical Forum Building 950 22nd Street North, Suite 601 Birmingham, AL 35203 (205) 731-0239 Fax: (205) 731-0305



January 27, 2022

Mr. Danny King, Secretary-Treasurer Communications Workers, AFL-CIO Local 3804 P.O Box 992 Jackson, TN 38302-0992 Case Number: 410-6022803() LM Number: 006707

Dear Mr. King:

This office has recently completed an audit of Communications Workers AFL-CIO Local 3804 (CWA Local 3804) under the Compliance Audit Program (CAP) to determine your organization's compliance with the provisions of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (LMRDA). As discussed during the exit interview with Ricky King, President CWA Local 3804, on November 4, 2021, the following problems were disclosed during the CAP. The matters listed below are not an exhaustive list of all possible problem areas since the audit conducted was limited in scope.

## Recordkeeping Violations

Title II of the LMRDA establishes certain reporting and recordkeeping requirements. Section 206 requires, among other things, that labor organizations maintain adequate records for at least five years by which each receipt and disbursement of funds, as well as all account balances, can be verified, explained, and clarified. As a general rule, labor organizations must maintain all records used or received in the course of union business.

For disbursements, this includes not only original bills, invoices, receipts, vouchers, and applicable resolutions, but also documentation showing the nature of the union business requiring the disbursement, the goods or services received, and the identity of the recipient(s) of the goods or services. In most instances, this documentation requirement can be satisfied with a sufficiently descriptive expense receipt or invoice. If an expense receipt is not sufficiently descriptive, a union officer or employee should write a note on it providing the additional information. For money it receives, the labor organization must keep at least one record showing the date, amount, purpose, and source of that money. The labor organization must also retain bank records for all accounts.

The audit of Local 3804's 2020 records revealed the following recordkeeping violations:

## 1. Meal Expenses

Local 3804 did not require officers and employees to submit itemized receipts for meal expenses totaling at least \$78.48. The union must maintain itemized receipts provided by restaurants to officers and employees. These itemized receipts are necessary to determine if such disbursements are for union business purposes and to sufficiently fulfill the recordkeeping requirement of LMRDA Section 206.

Based on your assurance that Local 3804 will retain adequate documentation in the future, OLMS will take no further enforcement action at this time regarding the above violations.

## **Reporting Violations**

 The audit disclosed a violation of LMRDA Section 201(b), which requires labor organizations to file annual financial reports accurately disclosing their financial condition and operations. The Labor Organization Annual Report Form LM-3 filed by Local 3804 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020, was deficient in that it failed to properly report payroll taxes in item 24 (Officers and Disbursements to All Officers).

I am not requiring that Local 3804 file an amended LM report for fiscal year 2020 to correct the deficient items, but Local 3804 has agreed to properly report the deficient items on all future reports it files with OLMS.

I want to extend my personal appreciation to CWA Local 3804 for the cooperation and courtesy extended during this compliance audit. I strongly recommend that you make sure this letter and the compliance assistance materials provided to you are passed on to future officers. If we can provide any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Investigator