## U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Labor-Management Standards San Francisco-Seattle District Office 90 7th Street, Suite 2-725 San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 625-2661 Fax: (415) 625-2662



Case Number: 530-6025762(

LM Number: 013438

March 29, 2023

Mr. Eric Benjamin, Trustee CWA Local 89262 519 Estudillo Ave. San Leandro, CA 94577

conducted was limited in scope.

Dear Mr. Benjamin:

This office has recently completed an audit of CWA Local 89262 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 you on March 31, 2023, 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

# 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 89262's 2021 records revealed the following recordkeeping violations:

#### 1. General Expenses

Local 89262 did not retain adequate documentation for general expenses totaling at least \$16,000. For example, Local 89262 did not retain documentation to support payments for rent, storage, legal fees, and office expenses.

As noted above, labor organizations must retain original receipts, bills, and vouchers for all disbursements. The president and treasurer (or corresponding principal officers) of your union, who are required to sign your union's LM report, are responsible for properly maintaining union records.

## 2. Lack of Salary Authorization

Local 89262 did not maintain records to verify that the salaries reported in Schedules 11 (All Officers and Disbursements to Officers) of the LM-2 was the authorized amount and therefore was correctly reported. The union must keep a record, such as meeting minutes, to show the current salary authorized by the entity or individual in the union with the authority to establish salaries.

Based on your assurance that Local 89262 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(a), which requires that a union submit a copy of its revised constitution and bylaws with its LM report when it makes changes to its constitution or bylaws. Local 89262 amended its constitution and bylaws in 1982 but did not file a copy with its LM report for that year or in subsequent years.

As agreed, Local 89262 will file a copy of its current constitution and bylaws with OLMS as soon as possible but not later than April 30, 2023.

I want to extend my personal appreciation to CWA Local 89262 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,

Senior Investigator