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: 530-6025775(

LM Number: 005783

September 26, 2023

Mr. Omar Sabeh, Business Manager IATSE Local 107 303 Hegenberger Rd Suite 204 Oakland, CA 94621

Dear Mr. Sabeh:

This office has recently completed an audit of IATSE Local 107 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 September 27, 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 conducted was limited in scope.

Record Keeping Violations

Title II of the LMRDA establishes certain reporting and record keeping requirements. Section 206 requires, among other things, that adequate records be maintained 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, all records used or received in the course of union business must be retained. This includes, in the case of disbursements, not only the retention of original bills, invoices, receipts, and vouchers, but also adequate additional documentation, if necessary, showing the nature of the union business requiring the disbursement, the goods or services received, and the identity of the recipients of the goods or services.

The following record keeping deficiencies were revealed during the audit of Local 107's 2021 records:

1. Officer and Employee Expenses

Union officers and employees failed to retain adequate documentation for reimbursed expenses, for expenses charged to union credit cards, and for lodging expenses which were direct-paid by the union. The date, amount, and business purpose of every expense must be recorded on at least one union record. In addition, the names of individuals present for meal expenses paid for by the union and the locations (names of restaurants) where meal expenses were incurred must also be recorded. The union did not retain credit card receipts for over \$2,000 in credit card charges.

With respect to documentation retained in support of specific disbursements (including those in payment of credit card charges), the record retention requirement includes not only the retention of original bills, invoices, receipts, and vouchers, but also additional documentation, if necessary, showing the nature of the union business requiring the disbursement, the goods or services received, and all the recipients of the goods or services. In most instances, this documentation requirement can be most easily satisfied with a sufficiently descriptive receipt. If a receipt is not sufficiently descriptive, a note can be written on it providing the additional information. An exception may be made only in those cases where 1) other equally descriptive documentation has been maintained, and 2) there is evidence of actual oversight and control over disbursements.

2. Lost Wages

Union officers failed to retain timecards to support the date and/or purpose of some lost wage claims on records submitted for such expenses. Records that identify the date, number of hours lost, rate of pay, and business purpose (reason) for all lost wages must be retained.

As agreed, provided that Local 107 maintains adequate documentation for its disbursements in the future, no additional enforcement action will be taken regarding these violations.

Reporting Violations

The CAP disclosed a violation of LMRDA section 201(b), because the Labor Organization Annual Report (Form LM-3) filed by Local 107 for fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 was deficient in the following area:

1. LM-3 Item 24 (All Officers and Disbursements to Officers)

All direct disbursements to your union's officers and some indirect disbursements made by your organization on behalf of its officers must be included in the amounts reported in item 24. A "direct disbursement" to an officer is a payment made by your organization to an officer in the form of cash, property, goods, services, or other things of value. An "indirect disbursement" to an officer is a payment made by your organization to another party (including credit card companies) for cash, property, goods, services, or other things of value received by or on behalf of an officer. The union did not report over \$300 in reimbursed expenses to the recording secretary.

I am not requiring that Local 107 file an amended LM- report for 2021 to correct the deficient item, but as agreed, your union will properly report the deficient item on all future reports filed with this agency.

Other Issues

1. Inadequate Bonding

The audit revealed a violation of LMRDA Section 502 (Bonding), which requires that the union's officers and employees be bonded for no less than 10% of the total funds handled by those individuals or their predecessors during the preceding fiscal year. Local 107's officers and employees are currently bonded for \$100,000, but they must be bonded for at least \$156,284. The union should obtain adequate bonding coverage for its officers and employees immediately. Please provide proof of bonding coverage to this office as soon as adequate coverage has been obtained.

I want to extend my personal appreciation to IATSE Local 107 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