



June 14, 2012

Mr. Mison W. La-Seigna, President  
Steelworkers, AFL-CIO  
Local 04-3298S  
240 Falls Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Case Number: [REDACTED]  
LM Number: 038495

Dear Mr. La-Seigna:

This office has recently completed an audit of USW Local 04-3298S 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, Financial Secretary Bill Halbert, Treasurer Mike Lipiska, Recording Secretary Dave Lavoie, and Trustee Thomas Radka on June 7, 2012, 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 3298's 2011 records revealed the following recordkeeping violations:

1. Disposition of Property

Local 3298 does not maintain an inventory of hats, jackets, and other property it purchased, sold, or gave away. The union must report the value of any union property on hand at the beginning and end of each year in Item 30 (Other Assets) of the LM-3. The union must retain an inventory or similar record of property on hand to verify, clarify, and explain the information that must be reported in Item 30.

The union must record in at least one record the date and amount received from each sale of union hats, jackets and other items.

2. General Reimbursed Expenses

Local 3298 did not retain adequate documentation for reimbursed expenses incurred by union officers and employees totaling at least \$31.

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.

I want to extend my personal appreciation to USW Local 04-3298S 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

cc: Mr. William A. Halbert, Financial Secretary  
 Vice President  
Mr. Michael G. Lipiska, Treasurer