



December 15, 2020

Frank Barthen, Financial Secretary
USW Local 777
PO Box 44515
Columbus, OH 43204

Case Number: 350-6020155 [REDACTED]
LM Number: 545554

Dear Frank Barthen:

This office has recently completed an audit of USW Local 777 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 and President Shari Szewczyk on November 16, 2020, 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.

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 777 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, was deficient in that:

LM-3 Report Category Errors

Employer taxes were reported under Item 56 (Other Disbursements) rather than under Office and Administrative Expenses (Item 48). Also, a loan from the USW District 1 of \$6,000 was not reported as a loan under Item 33 (Loans Payable) and under Item 43 (Other Receipts).

I am not requiring that Local 777 file an amended LM report for 2019 to correct the deficient items, but Local 777 has agreed to properly report the deficient items on all future reports it files with OLMS.

Other Issues

Bank Signature Card

The union acknowledged that because of COVID 19 restrictions the checking account signature card has not been updated with the current officers. Deleting former officers and adding current officers to the signature card is critical to the financial integrity of the union and should be accomplished as soon as possible.

I want to extend my personal appreciation to USW Local 777 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: Shari Szewczyk