

U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Labor-Management Standards
Division of Interpretations and
Standards
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20210
(202) 693-0123



January 4, 2018

LM File No. 044-891

Mr. Harold Wilson
United Mine Workers of America
Local 8941-12
3830 Old Hartford Road
Caneyville, KY 42721

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This is in response to your request for a continuing hardship exemption for United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), Local 8941, LM File Number 044-891, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. The Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS) received your request on January 2, 2018. A continuing hardship exemption request permits a union to apply in writing for an exemption if the Form LM-3 report cannot be filed electronically without undue burden or expense. The union must specify a length of time for a requested exemption, not to exceed one year. If the Department denies the application for an exemption, the union must file the report in electronic format by the regular due date (90 days of the close of the fiscal year). If the Department grants an exemption, the paper report must be filed by the regular due date and the Department may require the report to be filed electronically at the end of the exemption period.

You based your request upon the following information stated in your letter: "I am not a computer person and cannot file electronically." The request did not specify or explain any undue burden and expense that the union would incur if it was required to file electronically. I am therefore denying UMWA Local 8941's continuing hardship request for FY 17.

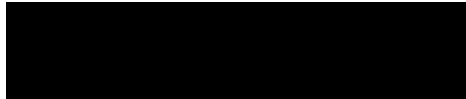
OLMS recognizes that electronic filing is new to some labor unions and their officers do not have experience using the OLMS Electronic Forms System (EFS). Therefore, we invite you to contact the OLMS Cincinnati-Cleveland District Office. A federal staff member will respond to you directly to coordinate and schedule a time to provide you compliance assistance. Initially, if your union does not have computer or internet access, the office will recommend you make inquiry at the public library closest to your union, the **Grayson County Public Library**, located **at 163 Carroll Gibson Blvd., Leitchfield, KY 42754**. We believe this library offers free internet service and computer access. The library's phone number is **(270) 259-5455**. See <http://www.graysoncountylibrary.org/>.

Additionally, the Cincinnati-Cleveland District Office may be able to provide additional guidance, such as the following: 1) one-on-one instructions over the phone to guide you through the completion of each step of the process using EFS, 2) the opportunity to answer specific questions via phone support, and 3) a hard copy of specific item-by-item instructions for completing the Form LM-3 via EFS, for future reference. Ultimately, the goal is to make

sure that you have the ability to acquire, complete, sign, and electronically file your union's Form LM-3 report for this and all upcoming reporting periods.

If you have any further questions about this denial of your request for a hardship exemption, please call 202-693-0123 and reference your organization's LM file number. Additionally, you may contact the OLMS Help Desk at 1-866-401-1109 (toll free) for technical electronic filing questions, such as those involving your PIN or signature. As mentioned, you can also contact the OLMS Cincinnati-Cleveland District Office at (513) 684-6840. EFS information is available on the OLMS website at: www.dol.gov/olms.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Andrew R. Davis, Chief

cc: Larry King, Chief, Division of Reports, Disclosure & Audits
OLMS Cincinnati-Cleveland District Office