

12/23/2010 – 9:08AM

Good Morning All,

Yes, I was present at the last meeting. Believe me when I say, I am not in anyway trying to keep you from receiving information. I am not trying to stall you. The truth of the matter is that some things were said at the Union meeting were never said before and they acted as if they had been doing these things all along. By now you know me and you should know that I don't mince words for anyone and I will not protect the guilty. I don't care who they are...

In all my years as Secretary/Treasurer, no one and I mean no one has ever said that fair share payers will get a portion of their dues refunded at the beginning of the year by the Union. I have always been told that fair share payers don't have the right to vote but they have to pay the same amount as everyone else. So as Mr. Goldlust was very delicately explained the situation. A little warmth started to well up inside because someone has been lying to me for about 16 years. I don't like being lied too and at this point I have to say that I have been lied too.

I still do not know what a Hudson letter is... What Mr. Goldlust said to us at the meeting on Monday night is the following:

1. The State of Delaware has no legal right to say that the Union is a closed shop.
2. You can be a Fair Share Payer by simply sending a certified letter to Council 81 and request to be a Fair Share Payer. In any part of the year, there is no time limit. If you want to receive the monies for 2011 I suggest you send the certified letter a.s.a.p. and keep the receipt in case it mysteriously is not "received"
 - a. Here is their address cuz I know that you are going to ask this in your next email.

296 Churchmans Road
New Castle, DE 19720-3110
(302) 323-2121 Phone
(302) 323-2119 Fax
afscme@council81.org
3. As a fair share payer you are entitled to receive a portion of your dues back. Council 81 gives you this portion back at the beginning of the year. If I heard correctly it is approximately 3 months. Dues will still be deducted out of your paycheck but this will bring a distinction between you as a member.
4. Once you become a Fair Share Payer you can no longer vote on matters that affect the Union.
5. We also discussed how if the Union is decertified by law it can never be formed again.

6. One additional clarification.

At any time in the year when first hired the new employee can make a decision to become a fair share fee payer. At that time they get the Hudson information and have to make a decision. The decision is only for the balance of year. The employee will get notification towards the end of the year to make a choice for the next year. Current employee union members must resign membership and convert from dues to fair share. When this happens the Hudson notice is sent to that employee. There is no secrets contained in the Hudson notice. It is not general distributed. I am sure if you request a copy it will be made available to you. The Council does not go out of its way to encourage people dropping membership and becoming fee payers so as to get the benefits of collective bargaining at a discount. They enjoy the milk but do not want not feed the cow. The law allows the Union to have the charges the same unless the employee objects. We do not solicit people to drop membership.

One more point: If the shift to service fee payers results in the decertification of the Union those people holding the position of supervisors will no longer be able to for a Union. The State is doing away with supervisor's unions when the law was changed. Unions with supervisors that per-existed the change in the law were allowed to remain union. No new supervisors unions can be formed.

I hope this helps.

Thanks for your patience,
Christopher Gore
837 Secretary/Treasurer