

AFGE



LOCAL 1127
CO, ID, MT, OR, UT, WY

AFGE TSA Local 1127

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I trust this email finds you all in good health and warmth, especially those of you in Denver preparing for the impending snowfall.

I want to bring to your attention some important updates regarding our upcoming membership meeting in April. Alongside the meeting details, I wish to notify you of a membership vote scheduled for the same gathering. Below are the proposed changes to our bylaws that have been presented to the executive board for consideration and now require the local's vote:

1. **Removal of the Sergeant at Arms from our bylaws: **

*Reasoning: * The Sergeant at Arms role traditionally oversees order during in-person meetings, which is not, nor has it been a practical practice for our local.

- Given the absence of in-person meetings, this position is deemed non-essential for the functioning of our local.

- Our Executive Board boasts sufficient membership to fulfill voting requirements and address local business matters effectively.

2. **Inclusion of the Chief Steward as an official member of the Executive Board: **

*Proposed Change: * Elevating the Chief Steward to an official member of the Executive Board, rather than their current status as an appointed position by the President, as per our current bylaws.

- This amendment would grant the Chief Steward voting rights in local business matters.

Your participation and input in these matters are invaluable, as they directly impact the operation and governance of our union. Please mark your calendars for the April meeting and be prepared to contribute to the discussion and decision-making process.

We will be voting by secret ballot and only those present may cast a vote.

Stay safe and warm amidst the weather challenges and thank you for your continued dedication to our AFGE family.

Membership meeting
Saturday, Apr 13 • 12:15 – 1:15 PM

In solidarity,

Rebecca Wolf, Local President
AFGE TSA LOCAL1127
president@local1127.org
208-353-3885

March 2024

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AFGE TSA Local 1127

- President Rebecca Wolf
- Exe Vice President Trang Kim
- Exe Treasurer Don Thompson
- Exe Secretary Denise Rodriguez
- RVP-Colorado Adam Givens
- RVP-Idaho Cameron Cochems
- RVP-Oregon Samantha Dollens
- RVP-Montana Barbara Hanson
- RVP-Utah Tanja Fowler
- RVP-Wyoming

[February 2024 Newsletter](#)

WE HAVE A NEW COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT!



HISTORIC GAINS in New AFGE TSA Council 100 Tentative Agreement

Brothers and Sisters!!!

WE DID IT!!!

After much anxious anticipation the time has come to announce that the NEW 2024 AFGE-TSA CBA has been ratified!

The new CBA is much bigger than anything we have had in the past. As soon as it is approved through DHS, TSA will have it uploaded on to the National I-share site and we will have electronic copies to share with all of you.

Click on the flier link to see the highlights of the new agreement.

Congratulations to all! **Rebecca Wolf**

[The AFGE Insider](#)

[CBA Flyer](#)



Boise Officers and their RVP, Cameron Cochems attending the first scheduling committee meeting of the year. Members it is important that a Union Steward attends your Shift Bids and or your Annual Leave Bids.



Employees ratify TSA's first union contract since rights expansion

The American Federation of Government Employees' new collective bargaining agreement streamlines grievance and arbitration rules and greatly expands work-life balance policies like shift trading.

March 12, 2024 Erich Wagner

Employees at the Transportation Security Administration on Monday voted to ratify a new union contract with agency leadership that streamlines dispute resolution processes and expands policies promoting work-life balance like shift-trading.

When the TSA was founded following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Congress gave the agency leeway to create its own personnel system. As a result, employees lacked collective bargaining and other workplace rights until then-President Obama authorized abridged unionization rights for the TSA workforce in 2011. The Biden administration in 2021 [expanded employees' rights](#) to match those enjoyed by most other federal workers and mapped the agency's pay system to the General Schedule, though Congress has [yet to codify](#) those changes in law.

The contract between TSA and the American Federation of Government Employees, which is currently subject to agency head review for the next 30 days before it will be implemented, simplifies the arbitration and grievance policies from 74 pages down to two and greatly expands union officials' access to official time. It also increases cash allowances for the purchase of uniforms and gives transportation security officers greater flexibility in how they spend it.

"The new agreement puts us on the road to full Title 5 rights, better retention at TSA and will greatly increase the quality of life for the TSOs that we represent," said AFGE Council 100 President Hydrick Thomas in a statement. "It's been a long journey since the beginning of our union, when we barely had any say in what happened in our workplace. This agreement is a testament to the power of union membership."

In an interview with *Government Executive*, AFGE Council 100 Secretary-Treasurer Johnny Jones said some of the biggest gains in the contract come in the form of policies aimed at improving employees' work-life balance. One provision expands the practice of shift-trading from 20% of an employee's work hours to 40%, while another allows TSOs to work double shifts. Another will allow for bargaining to take place on the local level, an important tool with a workforce spread out across more than 400 airports across the country.

Two issues remain unresolved, however. Negotiations over overtime work and child care subsidies are both going to arbitration, though Jones said management has agreed to establish a working group on child care that could spur agreement down the road.

"We weren't able to get the language we would like, but to have a working group that will start negotiations [is important], as it's very expensive to find daycare for our employees," Jones said. "Until we find a real, workable solution, it's going to impact the workforce and the ability to maintain employment at TSA. It's such an expensive burden on the employee." Jones said a major priority in contract talks was spelling out employees' workforce protections and collective bargaining rights, given that those rights have been installed administratively and not as the result of legislation.

"We've laid out everything we can think of, just to make sure it's there in case something comes about [that could jeopardize those rights]," he said. "[One] of our concerns are with [our rights] not being in law. [Administrator David] Pekoske is fully committed to making sure this works, so it's not him we're worried about. But if there's a future administration who comes along or a change in the Homeland Security secretary, they could start peeling those rights back, if not terminate them altogether . . . That's a very grave concern, given the political makeup today."

Despite worries about future administrations taking rights away, Jones said he is optimistic both about TSA's efforts to improve employee engagement and morale, as well as the agency's commitment to collaborative labor-management relations. "Pekoske's been very forthcoming, and he put the right people in place to do the job, so full kudos to him for who he put in charge of handling labor-management relations for TSA," he said. "Our relationship [with management] is as good as it's ever been in my career, and I joined the agency in 2002."

Meet Billy Thompson



Meet Billy Thompson, Idaho's Member Spotlight for the month!

With his tenure since 2021 as a Transportation Security Officer (TSO) and active union member, Brother Thompson has garnered numerous accolades, including Model Officer of the Quarter and Year, the Customer Service Award, and the Respect and Core Values Award.

A U.S. Army veteran, Brother Thompson extends his service by participating in hiring events across the Treasure Valley.

Renowned for his integrity, he fearlessly speaks out against injustices and enjoys the camaraderie of his peers. Working for the TSA fills him with pride as he feels he's contributing to a safer environment and standing up for his fellow officers.

Currently, Brother Thompson is on the path to becoming one of BOI's newest stewards.

A heartfelt thank you to Billy for his unwavering commitment to enhancing airport safety and for being a beacon of positivity at the checkpoint.

Cameron Cochems RVP Idaho

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas Speaks with TSA Employees



Josh Borrego meets Secretary Mayorkas!

Josh joined TSA to find a better career than what he was doing. I first thought, says Josh, I would use this as an opportunity to advance to another agency but when I found out about the NDO program, I quickly took interest. Bijan McCall was the one that helped me put the application in. Not too long after being on the team I quickly fell in love with the program. I hope to make this a long time career. I love what we do and what I get to do. While on NDO assignment in Grand Forks, ND, We were told that Secretary Mayorkas was coming in for a visit. Our manager told us that anyone was invited to come in that day to meet Mayorkas. When the Secretary arrived he shook hands with everyone and talked with everyone. Local leadership pointed myself and the 2 other NDOs out and he thanked us for taking the time to be away from home to help out.

[More pictures of Secretary Mayorkas' visit](#)

TSA Legislative Priorities

We still need to educate many of our legislator's both in the Senate and Congress. Inform them that not only does the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) represent more than 750, 000 federal and D.C. government employees, of those approximately 45,000 are Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) within TSA.

We need support for:

- ◆ [Fund the TSA Act \(H. R. 3394\)](#)
- ◆ [Honoring our Fallen TSA Officer Act. \(H.R. 871\)](#)

Not sure if your airport has this issue?

But at Durango La Plata Airport in Colorado, passenger many times leave their pet carrier's on the belt not knowing that it is not heavy enough to go thru the X-ray. One of our own TSOs Braydon McCormick took it upon himself to decorate one of our old bins to use. We still have to watch the passengers who don't think to remove their pets from the carrier. Braydon didn't want his picture taken.





We are almost at
1000 members!

We need all active member to recruit
at least one new member, this month!

Once you recruit one coworker, you will easily enroll more
members and remember the bonus buck are still available!

We are stronger together!

We can protect ourselves together to ensure we work in an
environment free of discrimination, violence, reprisal, and
bullying.

Membership Drive
Lets make this happen!
Lets get over 1000 members for
TSA Local 1127!

Sign up a member Today

To get started, fill out, print, and sign [1158 form](#) & [Bonus Bucks](#)
Email to treasurer@local1127.org

Exclusive Benefits:

AFGE members are eligible for a range
of benefits, including:

- Prescription Drug Discount Cards
- Discounted Dental & Vision health services
- Special mortgage programs
- Discounts travel, entertainment & electronics
- Life insurance & retirement planning services
- Identify Theft Protection
- And much more!

[Click here to explore all exclusive to
AFGE member benefits.](#)

“Protecting Officer Rights;

**AFGE AFL-CIO
CO ID MT**



**TSA Local 1127
OR UT WY**

While They Protect the Skies”

AFGE TSA Local 1127

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*Lucky stars above you,
Sunshine on your way,
Many friends to love you,
Joy in work and play.
Laughter to outweigh each care,
In your heart a song,
And gladness waiting everywhere
All your whole life long*

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