



# AFGE TSA Local 1127

Brothers and Sisters,

Hello! I do hope this finds you well.

Here we are already half way through April 2024! Graduations and Summer vacations fast approaching. Thank you all who came to the membership meeting held on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. It was nice to see new faces and more involvement. Membership meetings are so important. Without membership, there is no local. Without membership involvement, we can not conduct the business of the local effectively or efficiently.

Our goal at the beginning of the year, was to reach 1000 members by the end of April. Well guess what?! We are almost there! According to the count on our AFGE My Local, we are at 993 members!!!! I am sure by the end of the week, after the new members have been processed from the latest New Hire Orientations, we will actually be over! What an AWESOME job done by all who are actively showing up, talking with people and signing them up! You are ROCKING IT! It takes a TEAM to accomplish this.

With that being said, **my next challenge is to sign up another 300 by July 31<sup>st</sup>. I know we can do it!**

The question has been asked if we have ever met these numbers before. No, we have not. We lose members all the time, be it from leaving the agency, transitioning into a non BUE position or people who have decided they just aren't sure the Union is for them. So, it becomes a back-and-forth game with the numbers.

We all know the benefits of representation with being a member, but are you aware of all the other benefits available to you as a member? Or that your family can use your benefits as well just because you are awesome and are a member? Check them out on the website! There are so many things available.

**The new CBA!** Everyone is eagerly awaiting the release. Council 100 will be in DC next month for the signing of the CBA with Administrator Pekoske. DHS had 30 days to sign off on it and once done, it will go into effect 30 days after. We are looking at May 24<sup>th</sup> for the new CBA to go live. Council is working diligently to get some training events set up for as soon as possible.

### Events coming up in breakrooms near you....

**RVP Samantha Dollens** will be visiting the airports in **Oregon** along with our National Organizer, Eileen Garcia the week of **May 5<sup>th</sup>**.

**RVP Cameron Cochems** will be visiting the airports in **Idaho** along with our National Organizer, Eileen Garcia the week of **May 12<sup>th</sup>**. I will actually be visiting Lewiston with Eileen on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May.

The week of **June 9<sup>th</sup>**, there will be a bunch of us coming to the breakrooms in **Denver!** **RVP Adam Givens, Secretary Denise Rodriguez, Vice President Trang Kim, National Organizer Eileen Garcia, Benefit Architects representative, Scott Ellenwood** and a few more yet to be determined!

We are working with the National Organizer to get more dates on the books to ensure we see each and every one of you!

National Organizer, Eileen Garcia and I had the pleasure of visiting the airports in **Utah** a couple weeks ago.

It is always a pleasure to see everyone and visit your airports. To be able to sit down and have conversations with you and offer assistance where I can. To hear the good and the bad. Thank you for having us.

Thank you again for all that you do.

Your membership, your support and voice always make a difference.

Local President,

Rebecca Wolf



## APRIL 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

[March 2024 Newsletter](#)

# AFGE Applauds Biden Administration for Protecting Federal Workforce from Politicization

April 08, 2024 *The Insider*

The Biden administration last week issued a [final regulation](#) to protect federal workers from being stripped of their workplace protections if there's the return of the Trump policy seeking to make federal employees at-will workers.

The new rule, which will be published in the Federal Register this week, makes it more difficult for a future administration to bring back a corrupt spoils system where federal workers are hired and fired based on political affiliations, not merits.

It's written in response to the Trump-era policy that created a new category of workers called Schedule F that sought to turn policy-related employees into at-will workers without much workplace protection. Hundreds of thousands of workers would have been affected, including IT specialists, office managers, and administrative assistants, if Biden hadn't repealed Trump's Schedule F executive order.

Under the new rule, an employee who is being converted from competitive service to excepted service "retains the status and civil service protections they had already accrued by law, unless the employee relinquishes such rights or status by voluntarily encumbering a position that explicitly results in a loss of, or different, rights."

The rule also narrows down the definition of "policy-related employees" to mean non-career, political appointments only. It grants employees a right to appeal reclassification to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB).

AFGE applauds the administration for its efforts to prevent politicization of the civil service and federal workforce.

"One reason for the stability of our federal government is the fact that federal employees continue doing their jobs and serving the American public even as political administrations come and go," said AFGE National President Everett Kelley. "Turning positions that demand technical expertise into political appointments filled based on partisan loyalty would undermine this fundamental tenet of our government and lead to chaos and corruption. Such actions would undermine our democratic, nonpartisan government and take us back to the 19th century, when civil servants were hired based on political loyalty rather than professional ability."

[The AFGE Insider](#)

[CBA Flyer](#)

# Largest Federal Union Calls for Increased Security for Public Charter Flights

April 4, 2024

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**WASHINGTON** – The American Federation of Government Employees is calling for the implementation of increased security to close security gaps on America’s “public charter flights.” These flights have more than nine seats, fly on fixed routes, and passengers purchase individual tickets. Despite their similarities to major carrier flights, these flights have different security standards than commercial flights.

“Transportation Security Officers work tirelessly to ensure the safety of America’s flying public but the lax security on public charter flights represents a major security vulnerability,” said AFGE President Everett Kelley. “The fact that these public charter flights are able to operate without any kind of centralized security is a needless threat to the safety of our country.”

“The working people of the American Federation of Government Employees, including the over 45,000 Transportation Security Officers we represent, join members of Congress and our union family calling for TSA security protocols on these flights. The safety of our skies depends on it.”

## 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. \(H.R. 871\)](#)

# TSA Homeland Security Certificate Program



## Open to current and approved TSA employees ONLY

DMACC and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) partnered to offer qualified TSA employees three college-credit, online courses in DMACC's Criminal Justice program, **all at no cost to the selected student.** [See TSA Requirements.](#) Not only will tuition and book fees be paid by TSA, all courses are online making this program extremely convenient to fit into your work schedule with no traveling time and all lessons available 24/7.

Completing this program will give you further insight into how TSA and your actions individually affect others. It shows a sense of commitment to yourself and your career that can help lead to opportunities of advancement into leadership positions. Plus the credits could be applied toward degrees such as Criminal Justice or any of our other degrees. With the new TSA GRAD Tuition Reimbursement Program this may be the perfect time to complete the degree you have always wanted. We would be happy to assist you in exploring degree options with DMACC with no cost or obligation. To get started please complete the "After the Certificate" form which you can [access here.](#)

**Contact your TSA Education Coordinator for more information, it all starts with them.**

CRJ 301 – Introduction to Homeland Security  
CRJ 303 – Intelligence Analysis and Security Management  
CRJ 302 – Transportation and Border Security  
\*Limited availability – first-come, first served basis. Program interest is strong and we anticipate waiting lists so register early!

Within the opportunities that are shown to TSA, I want to highlight the following opportunity.

Education is an opportunity that can be out of reach shortly after high school graduation. However, upon employment within the United States Government provides opportunities that may have been once concealed. To be offered free schooling is an opportunity that must be volunteered upon the most relevant opening. If the government is willing to teach you, why not take advantage of the opportunity offered. Free schooling is always an exciting opportunity to be part of!

Photo is of the Associations Program Certificate Presentation on March 19, 2024.

The one on my right is the interim-FSD Marcy Donnelly and on the left is Training Manager Anne Dumlao.

Adam Givens, RVP-Colorado





**AFGE** National Vice President for Women’s and Fair Practices Departments, Jeremy Lannan, and the AFGE National Y.O.U.N.G. Committee are always looking for exceptional mentors to not only the National Y.O.U.N.G. Committee but also to the members of AFGE Locals, Council, and Districts. These mentors work diligently every day to ensure the knowledge, wisdom, and expertise that is gained within the workplace and in the Labor Movement is not lost but is passed down to the next generation of Union Leaders. The winners of this award are not exclusively over the age of 40 since experience, knowledge, and wisdom can be gained and passed on at any age. Brother Mitchell B. Word, member of AFGE TSA Local 1127 (D11, C100) and resides in the Denver, Colorado area, has been a committed and passionate Leader for AFGE’s National Y.O.U.N.G. Committee and AFGE District 11. Through his innovative ideas and knowledge of technologies he has helped AFGE Y.O.U.N.G. lead the way in establishing AFGE’s very first Podcast series and now on Season 2. Mitchell is always willing to lend a helping hand and do what it takes to get the job done for our Y.O.U.N.G.



### FAIR ACT ACTION ALERT -- Let's raise the wage!

Here are the stats — federal employees on average earned **27.5 percent less than private sector workers in similar jobs in 2023**, according to an analysis released by the Federal Salary Council in November, up more than three percent from 24.1 percent in 2022.

As costs rise and the pay gap widens, we need the FAIR Act now more than ever. The “Federal Adjustment of Income Rates (FAIR) Act,” S. 3688 introduced by Senator Brian Schatz and H.R. 7127 introduced by Representative Gerald Connolly on January 30 would authorize a 7.4% pay raise for federal employees in 2025.

If enacted, H.R. 7127/S.3688 would narrow the double-digit pay gap between federal workers and private sector workers who perform equivalent work.

**We need to let our lawmakers know that government workers need them to cosponsor this legislation. [Take 60 seconds to contact your lawmaker NOW!](#)**





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](mailto: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.](#)



# WHAT STRESS DOES TO THE BODY

## SHORT TERM

FEELING WORRIED, NERVOUS OR UNABLE TO SWITCH OFF.

HEART BEATS HARDER AND FASTER TO PUMP MORE BLOOD TO THE MAJOR MUSCLES.

BREATHING QUICKENS TO SEND MORE OXYGEN AROUND THE BODY.

TUMMY ISSUES DUE TO THE RUSH OF STRESS HORMONES.

SKIN BECOMES MORE SENSITIVE AND OILY.

PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE SHEETS.

MUSCLES TENSE UP AS IF THEY'RE PREPARING TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT.

## LONG TERM

TENSION HEADACHES AND MIGRAINES.

MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.

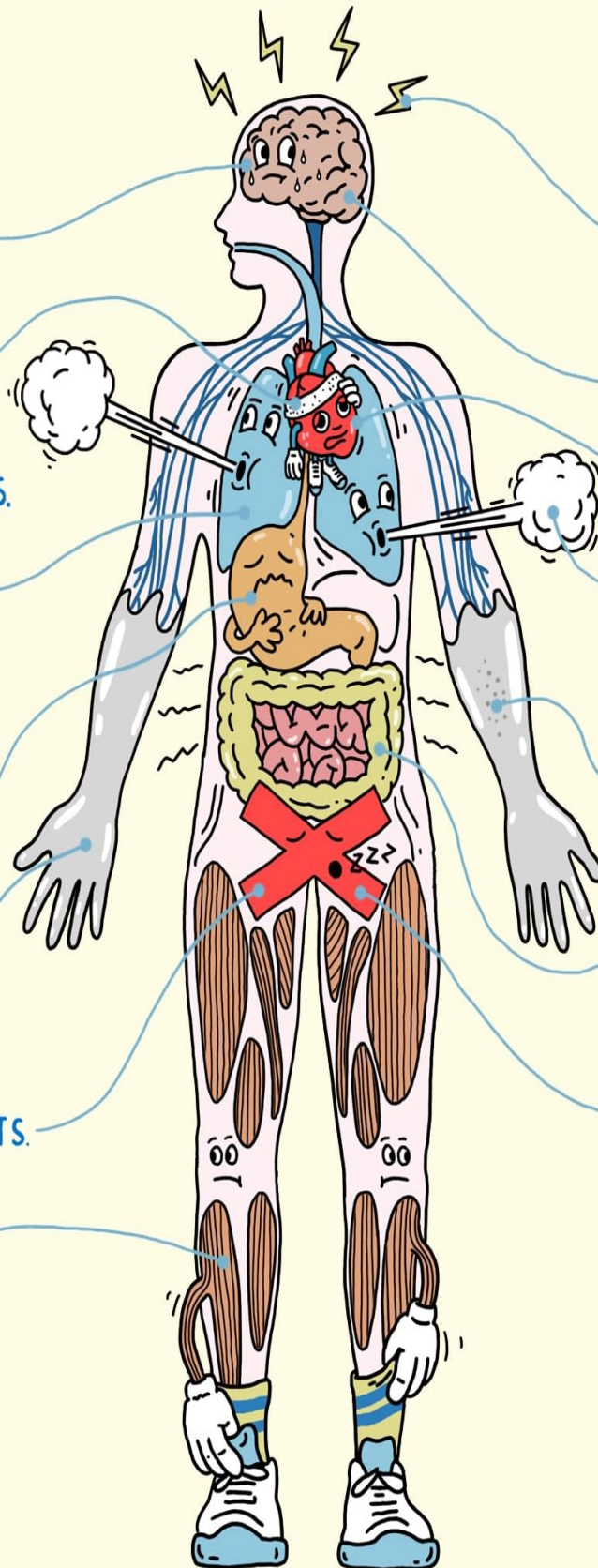
SERIOUS HEART PROBLEMS.

TROUBLE BREATHING, HYPERVENTILATION AND PANIC ATTACKS.

SKIN AND HAIR CONDITIONS EG ACNE, HAIR LOSS.

INCREASED RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES.

FERTILITY PROBLEMS (FOR MEN AND WOMEN).



**“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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