

AFGE LOCAL 3313

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

February 5. 2025

Communication: 2025-1

Title: Message to the Members

Topics: Finding Information and Membership

Deferred Resignation Probationary Status

Labor Related Resources

All,

Finding Information

You are receiving this because you have been identified as a member of <u>AFGE Local 3313's</u> Bargaining Unit. For those unsure whether you are included in the bargaining unit, please review box 37 on your SF-50 form. You are in a bargaining unit if the block includes any number other than 6666, 7777, or 8888.

Please note that all bargaining unit employees are included in the union whether they are paying members or not.

Obviously, the Union has limited resources, so paying members take precedence. They also receive consideration for arbitration expenses and professional legal services. I strongly encourage everyone who has not yet signed up as a dues-paying member to do so. You can do so here. Now is one of those times when solidarity and action are crucial.

I also encourage you to sign up for AFGE news alerts, which will provide **information** on how the Union is standing up for federal workers and ways for <u>you</u> to get involved. You can sign up for these updates with your personal contact information here.

Deferred Resignation

While a lot is unknown about the 'deferred resignation' offer, most (all?) federal employee unions and civil servant support organizations are encouraging workers <u>not to resign</u>, <u>including AFGE</u>. AFGE and other organizations have <u>filed a lawsuit in Massachusetts</u> court seeking a stay for the February 6th deadline. AFGE National President Everett Kelley said, "Federal employees shouldn't be misled by slick talk from unelected billionaires and their lackeys. Despite claims made to the contrary, this deferred resignation scheme is unfunded, unlawful, and comes with no guarantees. We won't stand by and let our members become the victims of this con." If you have not yet taken this 'deferred resignation' and have contemplated doing so, please consider waiting until the last moment to hit send while this case plays out in court.

- OPM Guidance issued 1/28/25 https://www.opm.gov/media/cbklseim/opm-guidance-memo-re-deferred-resignation-program-1-28-2025.pdf
- OPM published <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> (FAQs).
- AFGE Cautions Feds https://www.afge.org/
- DOTnet information <u>Deferred Resignation Program | DOT Intranet</u>



AFGE LOCAL 3313

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

• AFGE Deferred Resignations (FAQs)

Probationary Status

While we don't know what efforts OPM and DOT leadership will take next in targeting you as a proud civil servant, it is no secret that those on probationary status (< 1 year of service) will likely be singled out. I strongly encourage you to work with your supervisor on any mid-year performance review ASAP and to please do so ahead of longer-tenured staff where possible. While a positive performance review may not prevent a targeted action against all probationary employees, it may provide your supervisor with supporting documentation to defend your position or may serve as evidence in a later grievance that you were terminated without cause.

Labor Related Resources

- I encourage you to review our local union webpage to get information on how to file a
 grievance, member benefits, meeting information, and your specific collective
 bargaining agreement CBA at http://afge-local3313.org/
- The AFGE webpage has excellent information on the union's efforts to ensure your rights are protected: https://www.afge.org/
- For questions or concerns regarding your specific collective CBA <u>Collective Bargaining</u>
 Agreements | AFGE LOCAL 3313
- Signup for AFGE alerts https://www.afge.org/contact-us/subscribe-to-action-alerts/
- Sign up for <u>AFGE Weekly Insider</u> to keep abreast of the latest news and events affecting government workers.
- <u>Civil Service Strong</u> (2.2 million strong ...civil servants are the backbone of the federal government)
- The list of Presidential memos, actions, and Executive Orders can be found here https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/

For general questions, emails from OPM or DOT Management, instructions from your supervisor that seem incongruent with civil service rules or the law, or anything else regarding your rights as a worker, please reach out to your respective Union Vice President listed on our site Union Officials | AFGE LOCAL 3313

(Membership allows for more benefits compared to non-memberships! Go here to learn more: <u>AFGE | Join AFGE Today!</u>

Approved

Eagene Johnson President

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