

December 8, 2019

Appeal to Executive Board
Administratorship of Local 114

From undersigned Local 114 members

We are appealing the decision of the Judicial Panel over the decision to place our Local under the administrative control of AFSCME. Deputy Administrator Kruse stated that we have no ability to vote as a membership, so we are appealing this administratorship as individual members.

We are fully aware there is a challenge to AFSCME representation occurring within our Local. There is plenty of membership disgust over to the actions of Christopher Dugovich, J. Pat Thompson and Richard Ableson: Here is a short list of events leading up to this challenge:

1. Christopher Dugovich, refuses to provide his executive board and our membership with a full accounting of union funds and other vital information;
2. J. Pat Thompson, Deputy Director of Council 2 threatening to abandon our local mid-contract;
3. AFSCME Judicial Panel Chairperson Abelson was suckered by Dugovich into believing we were agents of the anti-union Freedom Foundation. Abelson led other panel members to decide to ignore our own International constitution and forsake the membership,
4. Ableson prevented our Local from intervening in the Maycock judicial panel appeal, but then allowed President Lee Saunders to intervene.
5. A rigged Council 2 election, where Dugovich's opponent and his supporters were not allowed to speak or distribute literature at a convention held on a date not allowed under the Council 2 constitution;
6. Dugovich withheld our local's share of AFSCME dues for approximately three months, stating they would remain "in my account";
7. Lee Saunders has not enforced his own order to release information to dues-paying members of this Union and he has subsequently ignored our numerous requests for information made directly to him;
8. A pattern of the suppression of our rights, willful ignoring of the AFSCME International constitution, retaliation and attacks against the membership by Abelson, Dugovich, and Thompson;

9. Dugovich ignoring the order of President Saunders to provide us with the information we requested by refusing to schedule appointments with members seeking review of the information;
10. Allowing Dugovich to continue his outrageous self-dealing while local members are being audited, charged, and stripped of authority and now placed under administratorship.
11. Deputy Administrator Kruse under the direction of Administrator Blair has engaged in slanderous and libelous conduct, opening accusing past officers of theft when they know and have proof that the exact opposite is true; thus exposing the International and state affiliate to legal liability.

We request that the Executive Board investigate this matter by talking to us personally and other Council 2 members who, by simply asking a few questions, find themselves in harm's way. We respectfully ask you NOT rely on the information fed to you by paid staff and others who wish to conceal their involvement in this sordid cover-up of self-dealing and trickery.

Since AFSCME is now spending resources on attorneys to keep us in AFSCME, we welcome the extended opportunity to continue our internal challenges. We will not back down because the truth is on our side.

Our reasons for the appeal are as follows:

Defective Notice:

The Judicial Panel Chairperson failed to notify the members of Local 114 of the date, time and location of the hearing. None of the acting officers of the Local received any notice. Not verbal, not email, not US mail. Proper notice as set out in the constitution is required.

Discriminatory Notice:

Several of our members, however, did receive notice. One member falsely testified in favor of the administratorship. Apparently the very few supporting administratorship are given notice, this event is "by invitation only", yet those who are falsely accused are not given notice. This flies in the face of justice.

The single witness from our large membership that Deputy Administrator Kruse could dredge up was Sister Copeland who herself has admitted exploring decertification on her own (see attached). Apparently, she is not only anti-AFSCME but anti-Union.

False Testimony:

The so-called depletion of our treasury was for legitimate union-related purposes. Our biggest expense was legal fees incurred in our attempt to compel AFSCME to follow its own constitution. Only after we filed the lawsuit did Saunders intervene and reverse the unanimous appeal of the rigged Judicial Panel decision against us.

False and Libelous Accusation

The so-called cash withdrawal is knowingly false. What Kruse fails to tell you is the membership of the Local authorized a \$3,000 cashier's check for the hardship suffered by the family of a local member who a) committed suicide and b) was somehow found not eligible for the Council 2 life insurance benefit of \$10,000. As previous participants in the Council 2 Dental Trust program here in Washington where Chris Dugovich is the president, we have intimate knowledge of the fact that Dugovich can and does intervene in insurance matters when he deems it necessary. Benefits have been paid out to our members in the past even though they haven't properly enrolled (if this was the case here, which we aren't convinced it was). Bottom line, the communication from Council 2 to our members regarding the life insurance benefit is that if you are a member, you have the insurance. Period.

The blatant insinuation that our past President Komac went to the bank and took out \$3000 in cash for any other purpose is a flat-out lie and is slander.

Unethical Conduct

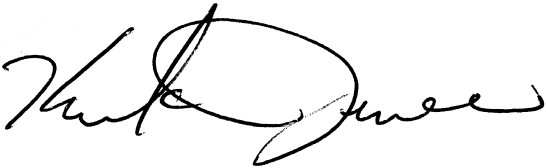
AFSCME Administrator Walter Blair and Deputy Administrator Kruse knowingly hired an attorney to represent Local 114 who has a direct and disturbing conflict of interest (see attached). Why attorney Younglove in particular agreed to take this case raises serious ethical questions.

Incompetent Administrator

Jeremy Kruse has no experience as a union representative, does not understand Washington State labor law, does not understand the grievance process and has done nothing except cause problems. At the November meeting of our Local he referred to himself as the Dictator of our Local. Bottom line, you would not want him as your representative – for anything. Walter Blair has not bothered to attend any meetings of the Local.

Please schedule the hearing in Bellingham and please send proper notice using correct mailing addresses. It would be appreciated if you would follow up by sending notification to email addresses.

Thank you,

 12/8/2019

Kirk Juneau	Andy Wojciechowski	Shayla Francis
Anne Boerner	Tami Miller	Donna Grasdock
Nick Leininger	Amy Lathrop	Tom Veitch
Nik Alexander	Tyler Rouse	Kelly Costello
Trisha Lee	Corey Schailtzer	Troy Cummings