

A MESSAGE FROM NTEU

January 21, 2011

Breaking News! Tentative TSA Election Details Set

We're halfway home—you and NTEU.

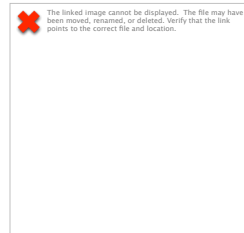
The union election that will determine your exclusive representative has been tentatively scheduled for a six-week period running from **March 9 through April 19**. A meeting was held between the parties to the election today and a tentative agreement on these dates was reached. The dates are expected to be finalized shortly after TSA resolves two pending issues.

You will be able to cast **your secret vote for NTEU** either electronically or by calling a toll-free number.

Once the consent agreement is final, the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA), a three-member federal body that oversees federal sector labor-management relations—including union representation elections—will be sending you election information at your address of record with TSA.

At the end of the ballot period, the FLRA will count the votes on April 20, 2011, and ultimately certify a winning union, the union that receives a majority of the votes.

At the meeting, the parties identified eligible voters. Eligible voters include Transportation Security Officers (TSOs), Lead Transportation Security Officers (LTSOs), Behavioral Detection Officers (BDOs), Security Training Instructors (STIs) and National Deployment Officers (NDOs), who were on the payroll as of Jan. 15, 2011. **BDOs will now be eligible to vote in the election.** Although TSA initially opposed BDO eligibility, the agency changed its position at today's meeting.



You do not have to take any steps in this process—except for the most important one for you and your family. **Vote for NTEU!**

Even if you have signed an expression of interest in AFGE, you can vote for NTEU; and, if you pay dues to AFGE and are disappointed with the representation and service, you can still vote for NTEU.

As for the other half of this equation—collective bargaining rights—you should know that NTEU is keeping up the pressure for a directive from TSA Administrator John Pistole that will provide you with these much-needed and long-delayed rights.

As you know, **NTEU has been aggressively pursuing collective bargaining rights for you**, working with both the administration and members of Congress on this vital issue. Collective bargaining is the vehicle for making the needed changes in your work lives.

Once the collective bargaining directive has been issued, and NTEU has been certified as your exclusive representative, NTEU will be ready immediately to begin bargaining a contract that will address the workplace issues that have troubled you and your colleagues since your agency was established in late 2001.

If you want to know the kind of work we do, just look at what we have accomplished for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) employees—those who may work at your airport, in the dark blue uniforms.

Thanks to NTEU, [these colleagues of yours](#) have scheduled eight hour shifts with no split shifts; they are paid under a system that is fair, credible and transparent; they park for free or at reduced rates; they enjoy an enhanced law enforcement officer retirement; and they won an upgrade to journeyman 12 pay level.

And as a reminder, the election to be the exclusive representative of CBP employees, which was conducted by the FLRA in 2006, was then the largest union representation election in the federal sector. **NTEU won that election over AFGE by a more than two-to-one margin.**

There are so many reasons why you should go with a winner, and that winner is NTEU. When you [choose NTEU](#), you get the union most widely-known and respected for its professionalism, representation and legal skills and bargaining expertise; the union that will provide honest, straightforward answers to your questions about your rights; and the union with real momentum on the ground among TSA Officers.

You get the independent union whose focus is on you and not some distant, multi-union organization; the union where you elect your own local leaders, establish your own by-laws and have control over your own treasury; the union where attorneys meet with TSA employees on a regular basis and go to bat for them when problems arise; the union that has two full-time lobbyists on Capitol Hill dedicated to Department of Homeland Security issues; and so much more.

We're keeping up the fight for your collective bargaining rights. But in the meantime, let's use this election to move forward together—you and NTEU—to a better workplace, a better agency, and most importantly, a better work life for you.



Colleen M. Kelley
NTEU National President

"...to ensure that every federal employee is treated with dignity and respect."