

Darlene Booker-Jones, Chair Person & Tyrone Booker, Co-Chair Person  
Local 696, 2023 Election Committee  
3001 Walnut St, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Cc: AFSCME International

Monday, April 3, 2023

Dear Chair Person Booker-Jones & Co-Chair Person Booker,

My name is Evelyn Flint. I am a member in good standing of Local 696, and am writing to file an official protest regarding the Local 696 Election held on March 30, 2023, in accordance with Appendix D, Section 4 of the AFSCME International Constitution.

At the Local 696 Election Nominations Meeting on February 22, 2023, when the floor was opened up for nominations to be made, J. Matthew Catron was the first person to stand up and speak and claim the floor. He immediately made the first nomination of the evening, nominating Sharon Thorpe for President. Anthony Dinkins then stood up and, without being given the floor, cut off Brother Catron, who had not yielded the floor, and suggested that all slates make their full slate nomination at once to save time. At which point Brother Dinkins continued with cutting off Brother Catron while Brother Catron still had the floor, and proceeded to announce all the nominees from his SBU slate at once, while still speaking out of turn.

When ballots started arriving at members homes as early as March 9, 2023, the entire SBU slate was listed first in the left hand side of the ballot though, despite page 13 of the AFSCME Local Union Election Manual stating:

“Most locals list the names of the ballot in the order in which the candidates were nominated, and this practice is perfectly proper. Some locals list the candidates in alphabetical order, and this practice is also perfectly proper. Some locals determine the order of names by drawing lots, and this practice is also perfectly proper. What is not proper is to change from the method used previously to a new method **after** the nominations have taken place.”

Instead of picking one of the above and just sticking with it, the Election Committee allowed the SBU slate to appear first in all aspects of the printed ballots, thereby not following any established method of ballot preparation and improperly changing from one method to another after nominations and on at least the officer ballot itself.

In Solidarity,

Evelyn Flint  
Candidate, Local 696 Executive Board & Steward/Delegate, Rabble Rouser Slate

Attachments:

Evelyn Flint's notes from the Nominations Meeting, 2/22/23  
Blank Local 696 Officers Ballot  
Blank Local 696 Steward/Delegates Ballot