

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.

On February 27, 2023, at the candidates meeting held by the Local 696 Election Committee, a Local 696 Election Rules flyer was handed out which read "American Arbitration Association is scheduled to mail the Ballots out to Local 696 Members by Monday, March 13th, 2023." This same flyer also stated "Any AFSCME Member is eligible to be an Observer. Proof of membership must be made by Thursday, March 9, 2023."

This timeline, as laid out by the Election Committee in the Local 696 Election Rules, would have allowed eligible Observers at least one business day on March 10, 2023 to observe the preparation of the ballots before they were mailed on the 13th.

However, members started receiving their mailed ballots at their home addresses as early as March 9, 2023, before any Observer for the Rabble Rouser slate was able to ever observe any part of the ballot preparation.

Sending out any ballots before the published deadline for submitting observer authorization forms was an underhanded attempt to exclude the RR Observers from observing ballot preparation, which is a clear violation of our rights under Appendix D, Section 2, Sub-section J of the AFSCME International Constitution, which states "Any candidate... shall have the right to have present an official observer... in all places where ballots bearing the candidate's name are to be prepared, distributed, cast or counted."

I am therefore filing this protest within the required ten day period and exercising my right to be heard in front of the Election Committee concerning this matter, per Appendix D, Section 4, Sub-section B of the AFSCME International Constitution.

Fair and free elections are the cornerstone of all democratic institutions, and we must diligently work to preserve the integrity of our union. Our membership is our greatest strength, and their voices must be heard. Thank you.

In Solidarity,

Evelyn Flint

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

Attachments:

Local 696 Election Rules flyer