

J. Matthew Catron

04/03/2023

To Darlene Booker-Jones, Chair of the AFSCME Local 696 Election Committee,

My name is J. Matthew Catron. Co-signing this protest with me today is Executive Board candidate Charles Payne, III. I am writing you today to protest the unjust process by which the 2023 AFSCME Local 696 election was conducted. Specifically, I seek to highlight a broken promise on the part of the Election Committee. The candidates of the Rabble Rousers slate were informed on February 27th, 2023 that they would have an opportunity to review the ballots before they were distributed.

They were given no such opportunity. Local 696 members started receiving ballots on March 9th, 2023 much to the surprise of the Rabble Rousers candidates. While this promise was not given in writing, I received an unsigned, anonymous email from "secretary696@aol.com" offering a copy of the ballot for review on March 9th, 2023 that was never actually sent.

One week later, on March 26th, 2023, I received another email from the same account claiming:

To address the issue for review of the ballot, this was due to the timeframes, deadlines and change on ballot presented to AAA were reasons sample ballot did not happen.

The full correspondence is attached to this letter.

By having no opportunity to review the 2023 Election ballots, the Rabble Rousers team had no way to correct potential errors, or even know when the ballots were cleared for distribution. As a result of that deliberate miscommunication, the Rabble Rousers lost valuable time to campaign for themselves. The incumbent slate, the SBU, were given full information as to the preparation and distribution of the ballots even before nominations, and thus had a significant and unfair advantage in the election.

I believe, and my Rabble Rouser colleagues agree, that this one-sided communication was sufficiently disadvantageous to the fairness of the 2023 Local 696 election that it could have impacted the election results.

Attached is the correspondence between myself and the anonymous secretary696@aol.com email account.

Thank you for your haste in resolving this matter. A copy of this letter has also been sent to the AFSCME Judicial Panel.

In solidarity,

J. Matthew Catron

Charles Payne, III

From: **J. Matthew Catron** <jmcatron@gmail.com>
To: **secretary696@aol.com** <secretary696@aol.com>
CC: **M Wilk** <wilk.marissa@gmail.com>
Subject: J. Matthew Catron Observer Paperwork
Date: 08.03.2023 21:45:56 (+01:00)
Attachments: IMG_6693.jpg (1 page), M-Observer-Form-Signed.pdf (2 pages)

Good evening,

I would like to submit Marissa Wilk to be my observer for the upcoming Local 696 election. Attached is the relevant paperwork, along with a photo of their AFSCME union card.

I have CC'd them on this email for your reference.

Additionally, is there any news on when a proof of the ballot will be available for the candidates' review? We were told on 02/27/2023 that a proof of the ballot would be given to us before the ballots go to print.

Thank you very much,

J. Matthew Catron
Candidate for Business Agent and Steward/Delegate

From: **secretary696@aol.com** <secretary696@aol.com>
To: **J. Matthew Catron** <jmcatron@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: J. Matthew Catron Observer Paperwork
Date: 09.03.2023 04:28:53 (+01:00)

A copy is available for review. How would you like to receive it?

On Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 09:46:12 PM EST, J. Matthew Catron <jmcatron@gmail.com> wrote:

Good evening,

I would like to submit Marissa Wilk to be my observer for the upcoming Local 696 election. Attached is the relevant paperwork, along with a photo of their AFSCME union card.

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J. Matthew Catron
Candidate for Business Agent and Steward/Delegate

From: **J. Matthew Catron** <jmcatron@gmail.com>
To: **secretary696@aol.com** <secretary696@aol.com>
Subject: Re: J. Matthew Catron Observer Paperwork
Date: 08.03.2023 23:51:17 (+01:00)

A PDF through email is fine, thank you so much!

On Wed, Mar 8, 2023, 11:28 PM secretary696@aol.com <secretary696@aol.com> wrote:

A copy is available for review. How would you like to receive it?

On Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 09:46:12 PM EST, J. Matthew Catron <jmcatron@gmail.com> wrote:

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J. Matthew Catron
Candidate for Business Agent and Steward/Delegate

From: **J. Matthew Catron** <jmcatron@gmail.com>
To: **secretary696@aol.com** <secretary696@aol.com>
Subject: Re: J. Matthew Catron Observer Paperwork
Date: 09.03.2023 11:35:26 (+01:00)

Good morning!

We are looking forward to seeing that PDF (or other file format) of the 2023 election ballot!

Thank you very much.

-Matt

On Wed, Mar 8, 2023, 11:28 PM secretary696@aol.com <secretary696@aol.com> wrote:

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On Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 09:46:12 PM EST, J. Matthew Catron <jmcatron@gmail.com> wrote:

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J. Matthew Catron
Candidate for Business Agent and Steward/Delegate

From: **secretary696@aol.com** <secretary696@aol.com>
To: **J. Matthew Catron** <jmcatron@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: J. Matthew Catron Observer Paperwork
Date: 16.03.2023 00:03:58 (+01:00)

Good evening Mr. Catron,

Please have your observer bring the with them on Thursday, March 30, 2023 the following:
Rules for Observers with their signature and photo ID, which would allow entry on the premises and floor.

To address the issue for review of the ballot, this was due to the timeframes, deadlines and change on ballot presented to AAA were reasons sample ballot did not happen.

Regards,

On Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 09:46:12 PM EST, J. Matthew Catron <jmcatron@gmail.com> wrote:

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