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## Opening Statement

On 7 June 2023 AFSCME Judicial Panel Member Denise Gilmore overturned the results of the 30 March 2023 election of AFSCME Local 696. In decision JPC 23-024, she wrote that,

“...over half of the protest items investigated by this officer were found to be valid protests and in violation of the International Constitution Elections Code and procedures set forth in the AFSCME Local Union Election Manual.”

During this second run of the election, members running under the Rabble Rousers slate have identified new, but similar protest issues we believe to be significant enough to impact the outcome of the election.

We hope you will agree with our assessment. Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of organized labor. This election committee has proven incapable of administering a free and fair election, and we request that it be disbanded. It is clear now that only AFSCME International has the knowledge and experience to correctly run an election. We request that a team from AFSCME International be dispatched to administer the 2023 election for Local 696.

In solidarity,

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Sharon Thorpe

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J. Matthew Catron

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Evelyn Flint

---

Charles Payne, III

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Sterling Davis

## Protest 1: Montgomery Auditorium

On 14 July 2023, members of the SBU slate reserved Montgomery Auditorium for a campaign event. Montgomery Auditorium is located at 1901 Vine St. Philadelphia, PA 19103. It is on the ground floor of Parkway Central Library, a Local 696 work location.

Parkway Central Library is free and open to the public. It is not improper for the SBU to use Montgomery Auditorium for a campaign event. It is, however, improper to list such an event as an “HR Meeting”, which is precisely what happened.

On 13 July 2023 at 2:10pm, Local 696 Member Tony Leung, a Library employee, issued a daily calendar email, as he does every work day. In it, from 12pm-1:30pm, there is an event listed in Montgomery Auditorium as “HR Meeting.” That email and the daily calendar are attached.

On 14 July 2023 at 10:28am, SBU Candidate Mary Kachline sent out an email to a blind-copied list of members. The email read in its entirety, “SBU will be in the Central Library Montgomery Auditorium today from 12:00-1:30 pm.

Mary”

That email is also attached at the end of this protest.

By listing the event as “HR Meeting”, the SBU have misled the City and the Membership, falsely claiming that a campaign event for the SBU was an event hosted by the City of Philadelphia’s Office of Human Resources, misleading members as to the nature of what transpired in Montgomery Auditorium on 14 July, 2023 from 12:00pm-1:30pm.

We assert that this protest is, by itself, enough to overturn the results of the July 2023 AFSCME Local 696 election. This is the second time this year that Mary Kachline has been caught inappropriately conflating work, union, and campaign issues.

## AC #23-7 - Calendar of Events - Friday, July 14, 2023

Leung, Tony

Thu 7/13/2023 2:10 PM

To: CentralUsers <CentralUsers@freelibrary.org>;

1 attachments (16 KB)

July 14, 2023 -- CPSD.xlsx;

Good afternoon,

Attached is the daily calendar of events for Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Thanks,



**TONY LEUNG**  
Digital Resource Specialist  
Heim Center for Cultural and Civic Engagement

215-686-8665 | [freelibrary.org](https://freelibrary.org)  
1901 Vine Street, 19103



Great things are happening at the [Free Library](https://freelibrary.org)!

AC #23-7 - Calendar of Events - Friday, July 14, 2023					
Date	Start Time	End Time	Event	Location	Contact
7/14/2023	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	IT Interviews	Flex Mtg Room 25	Jessica Grant x7501
	9:00 AM	11:00 PM	Wedding	Skyline/Terrace	Alysha Felty 267-586-8360
	10:15 AM	11:00 AM	Gadget Help?	Heim Center	Tony Leung x8665
	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	Preschool Storytime	Shakespeare Park or Mont. Auditorium	Scout Mayor x5369
	12:00 PM	1:30 PM	HR Meeting	Mont. Auditorium	Christina Patton x5306

7/26/23, 6:17 PM

Gmail - Fwd: SBU Visit



J. Matthew Catron &lt;jmcatron@gmail.com&gt;

---

**Fwd: SBU Visit**

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**Evelyn Flint** <evelyn.flint@me.com>  
To: "J. Matthew Catron" <jmcatron@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 14, 2023 at 10:45 AM

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mary Kachline <kachlineunion696@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** July 14, 2023 at 10:28:06 AM EDT  
**To:** Mary Kachline <kachlineunion696@yahoo.com>, Tony Dinkins <adba696@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** SBU Visit

SBU will be in the Central Library Montgomery Auditorium today from 12:00 - 1:30 pm.

Mary

Mary Kachline  
DC 33 Delegate  
Local 696 Steward/Executive Board Member  
215-490-2619  
[kachlineunion696@yahoo.com](mailto:kachlineunion696@yahoo.com)

**Weingarten Rights**

**If this discussion, meeting or telephone call could in any way be related to my being disciplined or terminated or affect any of my working conditions, I exercise my federal rights and hereby request that my union representative or shop steward be present. Without their presence, I choose not to participate in this discussion or meeting.**

**Please do not request that I waive this right.**



Images taken from “Aurellia AllnatuReil Culp”’s public Facebook page. Culp is believed to be SBU Candidate for Executive Board and Steward/Delegate Aurellia Harrell.



## Protest 2: Bobby Davis

On 30 March 2023 as a result of the first 2023 Local 696 Election, Bobby Davis (Robert Davis, Bobby C. Davis) stepped down as President of Local 696. Between that time and the 7 June 2023 overturning of the election, Mr. Davis was hired by District Council 33 as a Special Advisor to President Ernest Garrett.

On 26 June 2023, candidates received an email listing the names and positions of the Election Committee. Bobby Davis is listed in this email as an advisor.

Mr. Davis is unable to serve on any committee in Local 696. He is not an employee of the City of Philadelphia. He is not a dues-paying member of Local 696. This alone is enough to raise alarm, but as an employee of District Council 33, his position as an advisor to the Election Committee constitutes election interference on behalf of the Council.

District Councils are explicitly barred from handling issues related to Locals. There is a clear delineation between the two entities that has been breached by Mr. Davis' conduct. His involvement is a clear conflict of interest.

Anthony Dinkins, president of Local 696, is fully aware that Mr. Davis is retired, and that his term as President ended on 30 March 2023. Dinkins is responsible for the forming of the Election Committee, and thus invited this conflict of interest into Local 696. Council President Ernest Garrett is also complicit for allowing Council Staff, Bobby Davis, to interfere in a local matter.

**Re-Run Election Local 696 Candidates Meeting**

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secretary696@aol.com <secretary696@aol.com>

Mon, Jun 26, 2023 at 9:33 PM

The Election Committee would like to share in this Candidates Meeting rules, guideline and conduct for the Re-Run Election of Local 696

Darlene Booker-Jones, Chairperson  
Tyrone Brooks, Co-Chairperson  
Ethel Funches, Secretary  
Jacqueline Robinson, Staff  
Bobby Davis, Advisor

Robert Davis is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: AFSCME Local 696 Election

Time: Jun 27, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88480772745?pwd=RHZTNGErQUV4RWVZU291T2xreVZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 884 8077 2745

Passcode: 658720

### Protest 3: SBU Website & SBU Facebook page

[www.sbu696.com](http://www.sbu696.com) [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090289405280](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090289405280)

This protest is regarding the misuse of official Local 696 resources by the SBU slate during their election campaigning across multiple online platforms. (Every parenthetical screenshot number in the text of this protest corresponds to the same numbered screenshot in the supporting documentation that follows this charge.)

The Facebook page in question (Screenshot 00) was created on February 26, 2023. It was named “SBU” (Screenshot 01), but advertised the official phone number and union hall address for Local 696 (Screenshot 02), while also categorizing the page as a “Labor Union” page instead of as an “election campaign” page, and then posting an SBU campaign flier as the pages cover photo (Screenshot 03). Over the course of both elections and the time in between them, this Facebook page posted both official business that only Local 696 officers would have access to post (Screenshots 04 & 05) and SBU campaign material (Screenshots 06-10), side by side with each other on this one same Facebook page, including a campaign video post from Aurellia Harrell, an SBU candidate (Screenshot 10). On March 31, instead of creating a new separate Facebook page for official Local 696 business, SBU just updated the profile photo (Screenshot 12) and cover photo (Screenshot 13) for this page to Local 696 and DC 33 logos respectively. On May 4 they posted a QR code link to the “@SBULocal696” instagram page (Screenshot 14). Then on July 9 they switched back to posting campaign material again, this time sharing a link to a campaign video (<https://youtu.be/COr2h1L5Lxs>) featuring President Anthony Dinkins campaigning for SBU while wearing a “VOTE SBU” lapel pin (Screenshot 15). On July 9, Michelle Robinson, a known SBU supporter, posted to Philadelphia Municipal Workers Facebook group with: “For news, information and updates regarding local 696 please feel free to check our official Facebook page,” with a link to the Facebook page in question (Screenshot 16).

The Facebook page in question also directed members to [www.sbu696.com](http://www.sbu696.com) (Screenshot 17), where the homepage named “Local 696” prominently featured that same Anthony Dinkins campaign video at the very top of the homepage (Screenshot 18). Other sections of this website were dedicated to official Local 696 business, like the “About the Officers,” “Calendar of Events,” “General Membership Meetings,” and “Steward/Delegates” pages (Screenshot 19). On July 13, an Anonymous user posted the [sbu696.com](http://www.sbu696.com) link to Philadelphia Municipal Workers Facebook group again (Screenshot 20), and when Matt Catron asked why [sbu696.com](http://www.sbu696.com) went down between elections, Anonymous replied that there was “no need to have [the SBU website] up” in between elections (Screenshot 21). Then Evelyn Flint commented on Anonymous’ PMW post asking if this was SBU “admitting that it’s a campaign site instead of the 696 site that it’s previously been advertised as” (Screenshot 22), and no one from either the SBU slate or the Local 696 officers ever denied it. On July 14 Anonymous commented that “If you noticed after the election it switched to the local’s website,” to which Matt Catron immediately replied with




the correction that “it went down after the election, and is being used for campaign purposes” (Screenshot 23). After the election re-run was completed the website was completely taken down again (Screenshot 24). The Facebook page remains up as of the writing of this protest (Screenshot 25), however 696 leadership is now blocking at least one member, Evelyn Flint, from viewing content and interacting with other members on the official Facebook page (Screenshot 26).

If SBU was using the official 696 website and Facebook page for SBU campaigning, then that is a violation of the ban on using official union resources for personal election campaigning. Specifically, this would be a violation of Appendix D, Section 1, Sub-section A, because SBU used “other resources” of the “subordinate body” to support the candidacy of all their SBU slate candidates “for any elective office.”

But if SBU was using these SBU campaign pages for official 696 business, then that is a violation of the ban on using the name of the local to conduct unauthorized business like election campaigning. Specifically, this misuse of resources is a violation of Article X, Section 2, Sub-section H, because SBU was “using the name of the Federation or of a subordinate body in an unauthorized manner or for an unauthorized purpose.”

Either way, we request an official investigation into this blatant conflation of official Local 696 official union resources and business with unofficial SBU campaign materials to determine exactly which constitutional mandate SBU violated with their internet presences during the election.


## Screenshot 00: 2/26: Facebook page URL


 Report profile Block Search Invite friends Like**SBU's Page link**


SBU's personalized link on Facebook.


<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090289405280>[Copy link](#)


## Screenshot 01: 2/26: Facebook page name, category, creation date


**SBU**  
Labor Union


 **History**

 Page name has not changed

 **Created - SBU**  
February 26, 2023

 Name changes can help you see if the Page's purpose has changed over time. If Page merges have occurred, that means that the Page has combined its followers with another Page.

 **Ads from this Page**

 This Page is not currently running ads.  
[Go to Ad Library](#)

Screenshot 02: 2/26: Facebook page with Local 696 phone number and union hall address



Screenshot 03: 2/26: SBU campaign flier posted to Facebook page

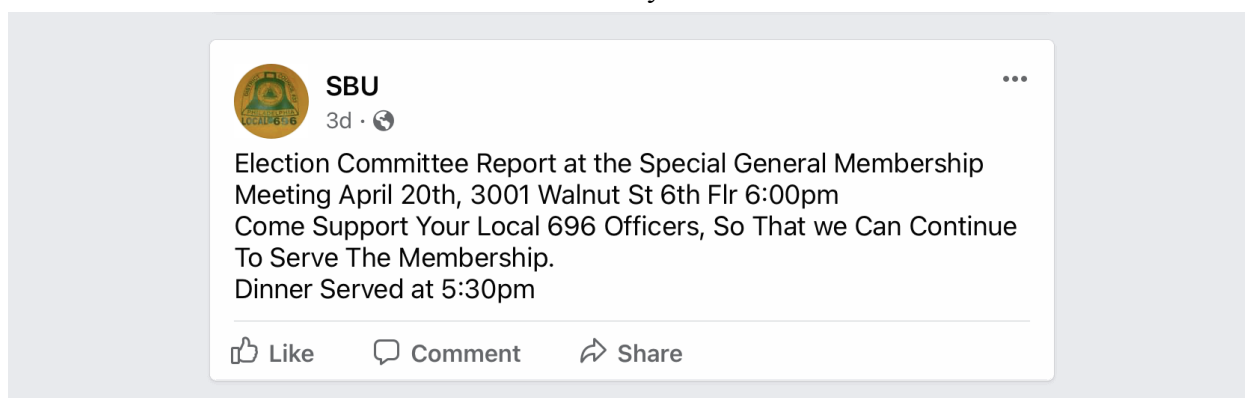




Screenshot 04: 3/22: Local 696 business posted to Facebook page (video streamed live at a retreat for elected officers of DC 33 and could only have been taken by an incumbent officer)



Screenshot 05: 3/18: Facebook post announcing Special Meeting while referring to Local 696 Officers by "we"





Screenshot 06: 2/27: Facebook post of SBU campaign flier

**SBU**

Feb 27 · 🌐

...

# Slate for a Better Union 2023

## TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

PROGRESS THAT YOU KNOW - PROVEN PERFORMANCE

TOGETHER  
EVERYONE  
ACHIEVES  
MORE

- LEADERSHIP
- LANDMARK DECISIONS
- JOBS SAVED
- NEW CONCEPT OF TEAM SPIRIT
- PERSONNEL RECORDS WIPED CLEAN
- UPGRADES
- PROMOTIONS

Your choice should be clear! We need to keep our union moving forward.  
Please return mail-in ballots ASAP for SBU to make your vote the one that counts.

**X FOR STRAIGHT SLATE**  
MARK X HERE

X PRESIDENT	ANTHONY DINKINS
X BUSINESS AGENT	MARK WEAVER
X VICE PRESIDENT	NATHANIEL BROWN
X TREASURER	FATINA EL
X SECRETARY	TORI RODGERS
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	AUDREY THOMAS
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	YVONNE LOTT
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	MARY KACHLINE
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	AURELLIA HARRELL
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	VICTOR COLLINS
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	JEROME BRISBON
X EXECUTIVE BOARD	HOLLIS CREVELLE
X SARGEANT AT ARMS	MARLON BARCLAY
X SARGEANT AT ARMS	KEITH BILLIE
X TRUSTEE	JOYCIA DAVIS
X TRUSTEE	DANIELLE HENDERSON
X TRUSTEE	DENISE ARMSTRONG

**X FOR STRAIGHT SLATE**  
MARK X HERE

**STEWARDS/DELEGATES**

X ANTHONY DINKINS	X DANIELLE HENDERSON
X NATHANIEL BROWN	X DENISE ARMSTRONG
X MARK WEAVER	X ROXANNE HUFF-GROSS
X FATINA EL	X SHERYL DAVID
X TORI RODGERS	X SHELLY ROBINSON
X AUDREY THOMAS	X STANLEY BRYSON
X YVONNE LOTT	X ANDRE FALLEN
X MARY KACHLINE	X TARA GATEWOOD
X AURELLIA HARRELL	
X VICTOR COLLINS	
X JEROME BRISBON	
X HOLLIS CREVELLE	
X MARLON BARCLAY	
X KEITH BILLIE	
X JOYCIA DAVIS	

Return all mail-in Ballots  
for SBU slate  
ASAP

Let our experience work for you!

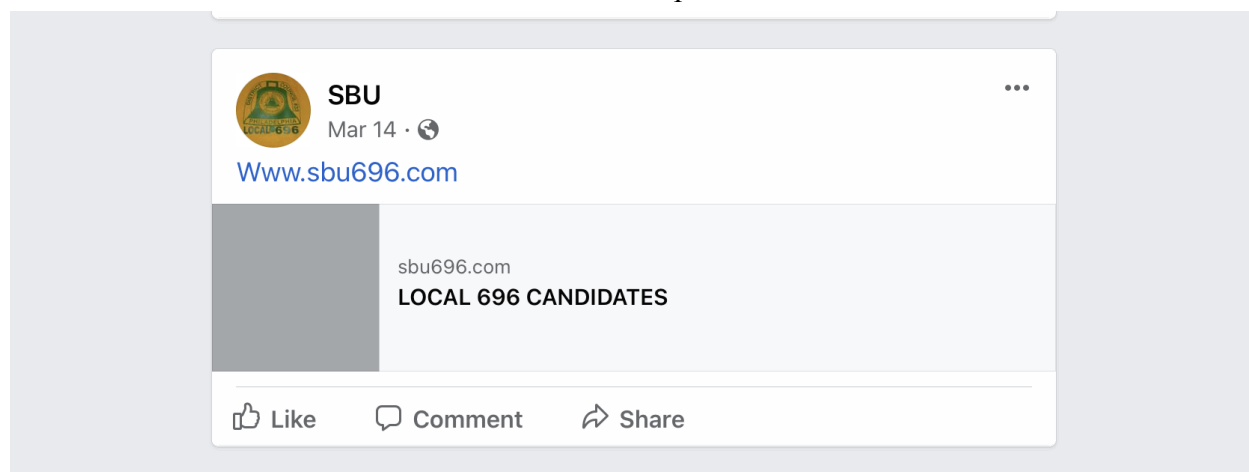
TO PROTECT THE INTEREST OF OUR MEMBERS, THE OFFICERS OF TEAM SBU HAVE PROVIDED STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, GIVING GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION TO ALL MEMBERS. WE WORK CLOSELY WITH THE CITY MANAGERS TO FACILITATE GOOD COMMUNICATIONS AND TO KEEP A PRODUCTIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. THE OFFICERS OF TEAM SBU, HAVE BEEN A KEY ELEMENT TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF WORKING CONDITIONS, HIGHER WAGES, BETTER BENEFITS AND WORKPLACE SAFETY. OUR DUE DILIGENCE AND REPRESENTATION HAVE AMPLIFIED THE VOICES OF OUR MEMBERS, TO ASSURE THAT THEIR ISSUES ARE HEARD AND RESOLVED.

WE BELIEVE WORKERS UNITED WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED.

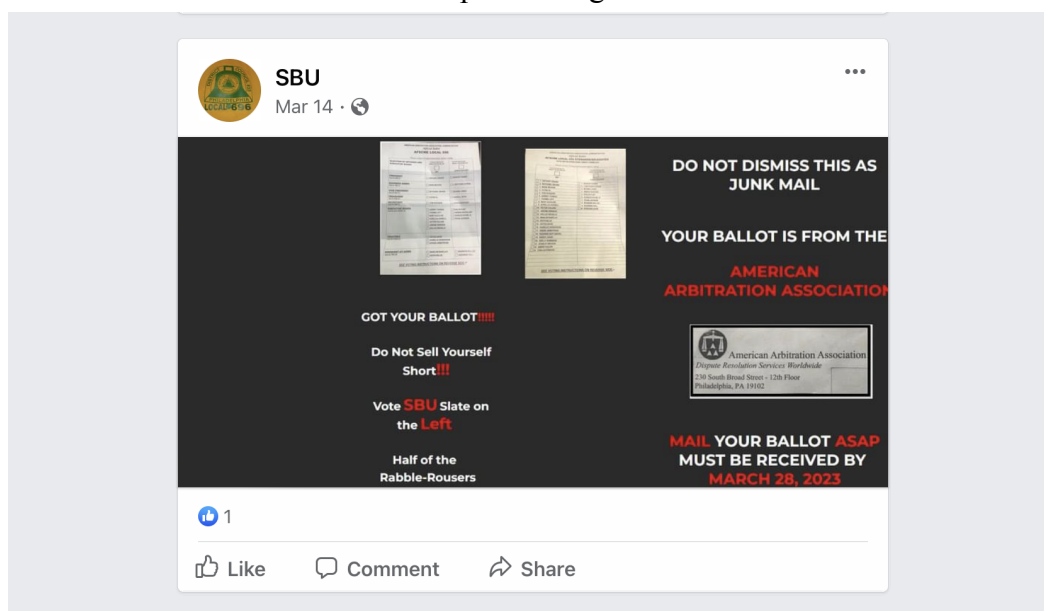
👍 Like
💬 Comment
➦ Share

Home
 Friends
 Watch
 Marketplace
 Notifications
 Menu

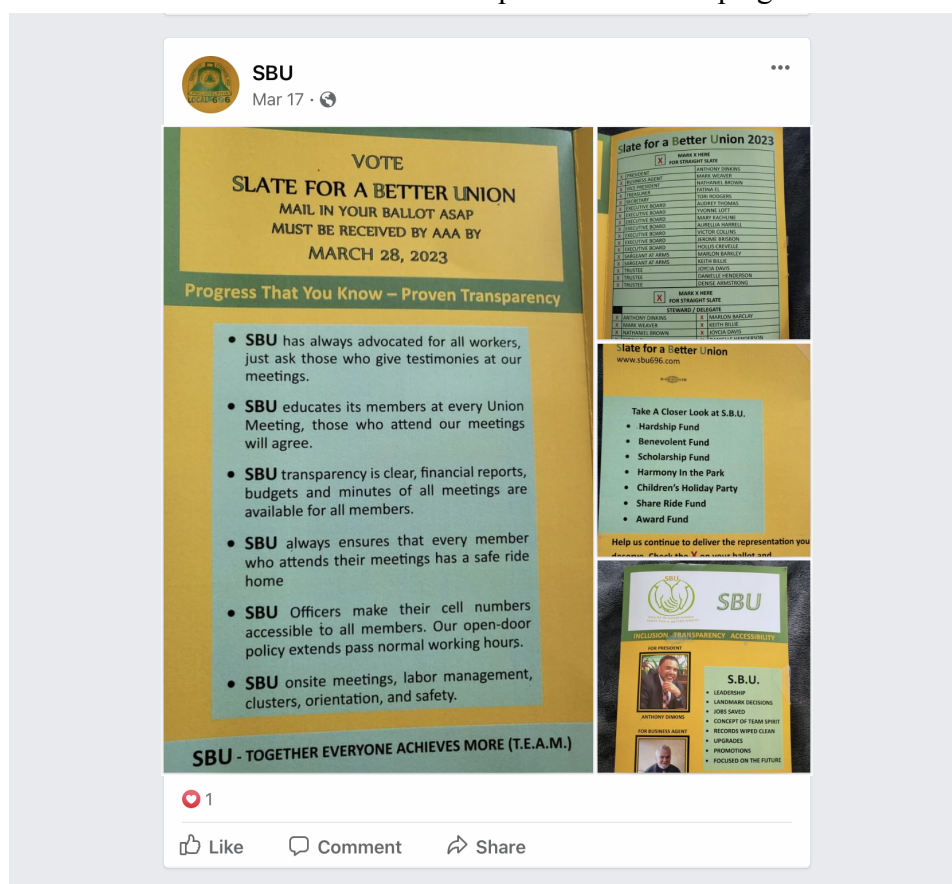
Screenshot 07: 3/14: Facebook post with link to website



Screenshot 08: 3/14: Facebook post asking members to vote for SBU slate



Screenshot 09: 3/17: Facebook post of SBU campaign mailer



Screenshot 10: 3/18: Facebook post sharing campaign post by SBU candidate Aurellia Harrell



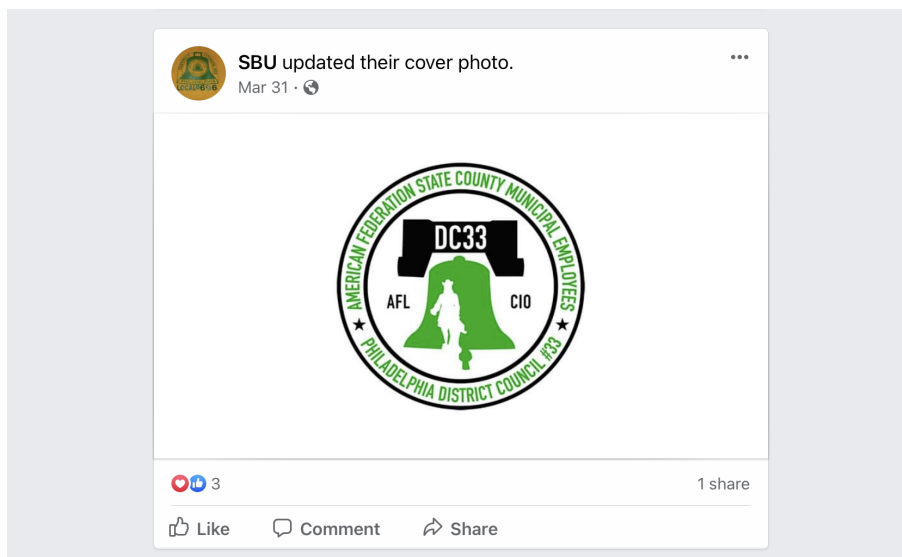
Screenshot 11: 4/20: Facebook post by to Philadelphia Municipal Workers group by known SBU supporter and vocal defender advertising SBU Facebook page as the Local 696 Facebook page



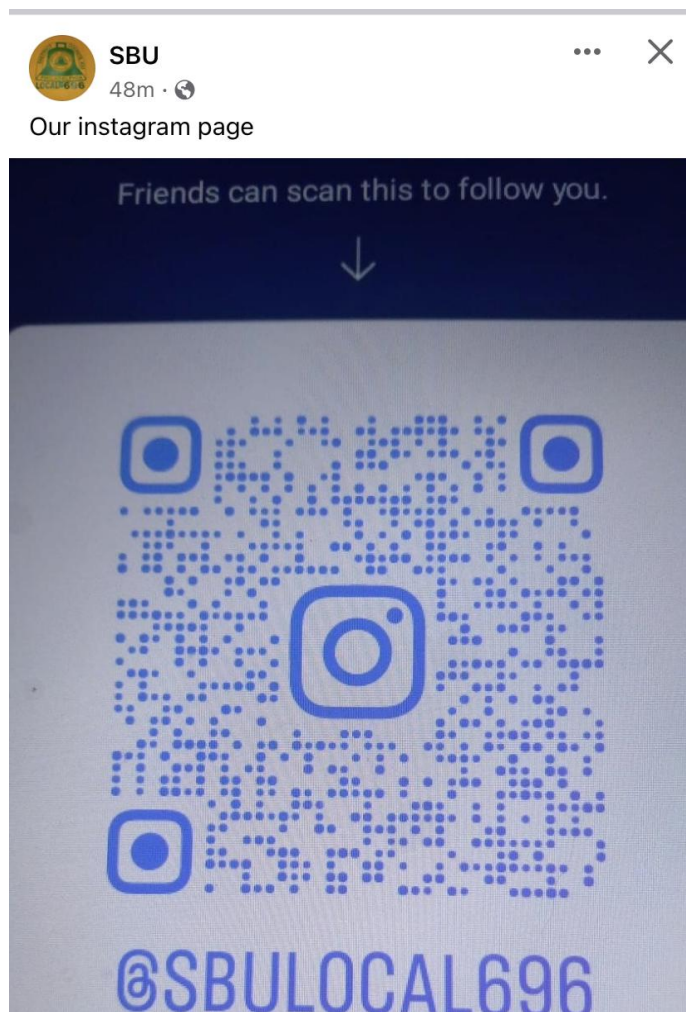
Screenshot 12: 3/31: updated Facebook profile picture to Local 696 logo



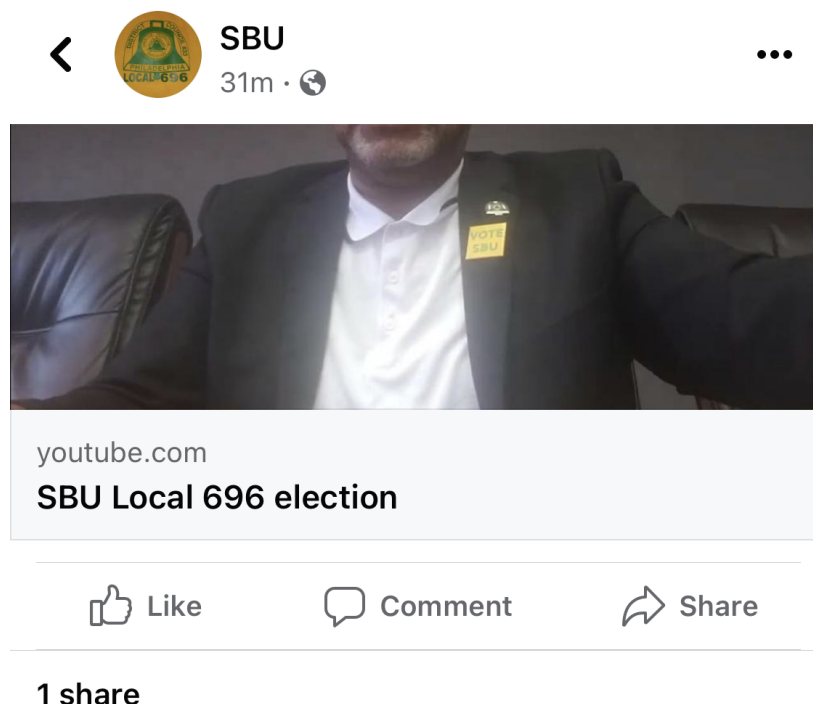
Screenshot 13: 3/31: updated Facebook page cover photo to DC 33 logo



Screenshot 14: 5/4: Facebook page post with QR code link to Instagram page



Screenshot 15: 7/9: Facebook page post of Anthony Dinkins' SBU campaign video



Screenshot 16: 7/9: another Facebook post by to Philadelphia Municipal Workers group by known SBU supporter and vocal defender advertising SBU Facebook page as the official Local 696 Facebook page

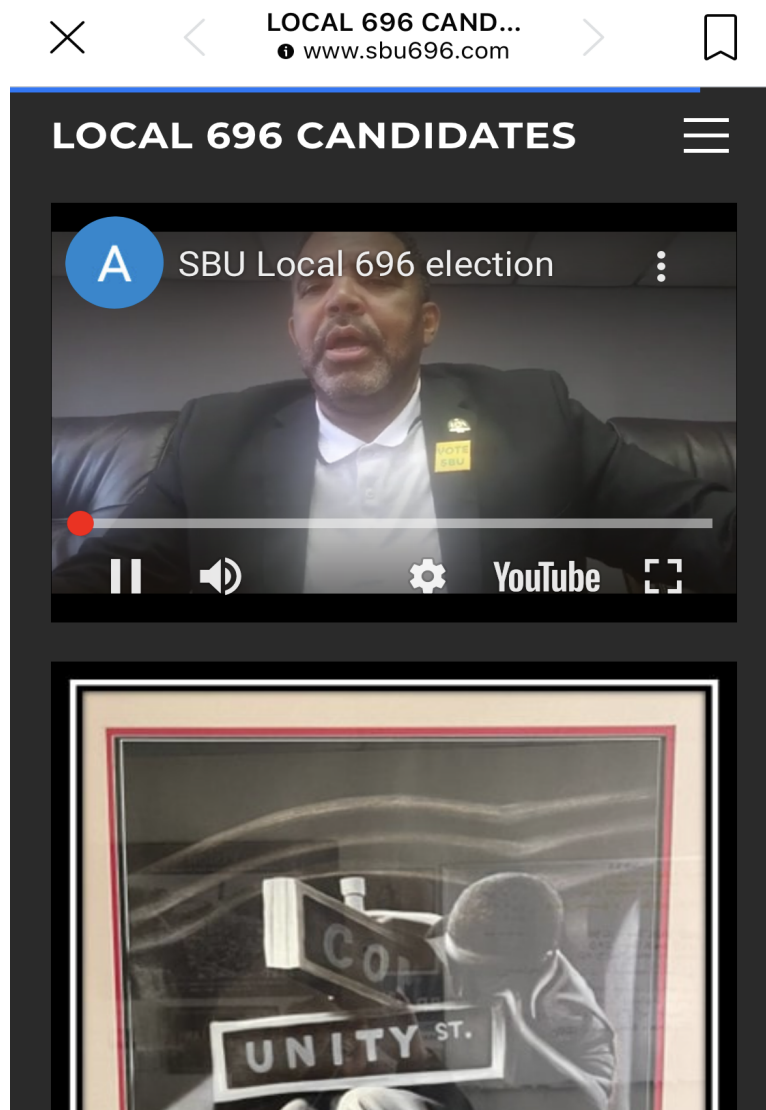




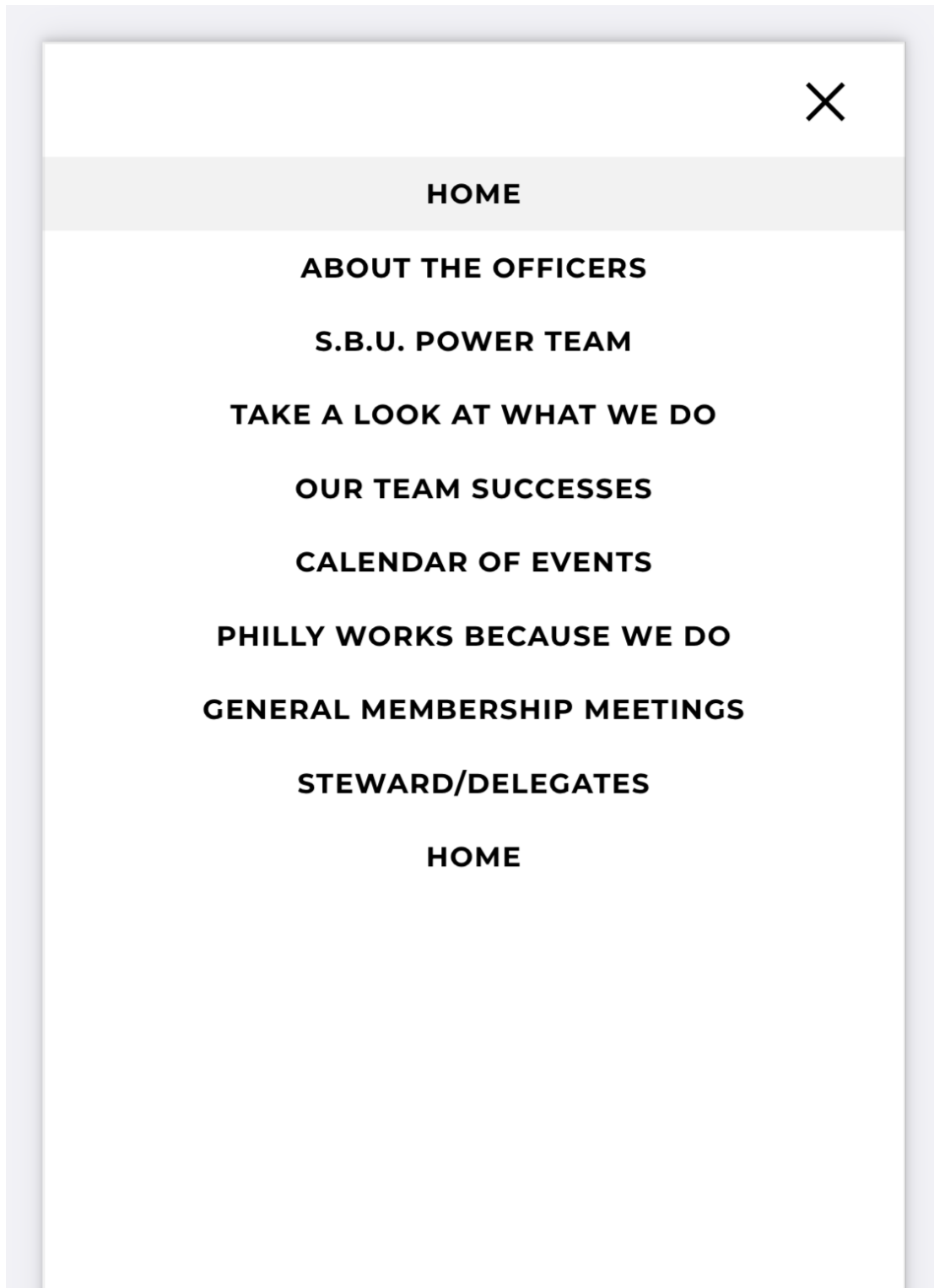
Screenshot 17: 3/14: Facebook post with link to SBU candidates page on website



Screenshot 18: 7/9: website homepage with Anthony Dinkins' SBU campaign video at the top





Screenshot 19: 7/9: website menu page with links to both election campaigning and official business side by side on the same website







Screenshot 20: 7/13: Facebook post by to Philadelphia Municipal Workers group by an anonymous member advertising the website, with reply by Matt Catron asking why the website went offline between elections






**Philly Municipal Workers United**

Anonymous member · 4h · 




Have seen this

[Www.sbu696.com](http://www.sbu696.com)

 Like  Comment  Send

**Top comments** ▾




**Evelyn Flint**

Yea, I've seen this violation of Appendix D, Section 1 of the AFSCME Constitution, which states that "No funds or other resources of the Federation or of any subordinate body, and no funds or resources of any employer, shall be used to support the candidacy of any member for any elective office within the Federation or any subordinate body."

Already got screen shots too.

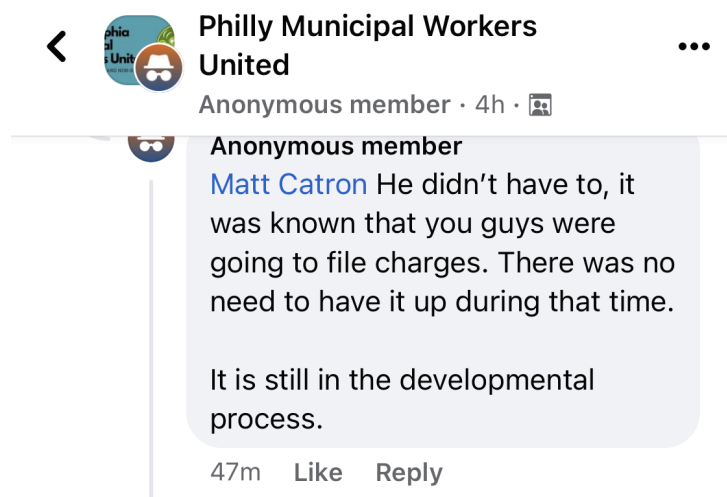
Just now Like Reply



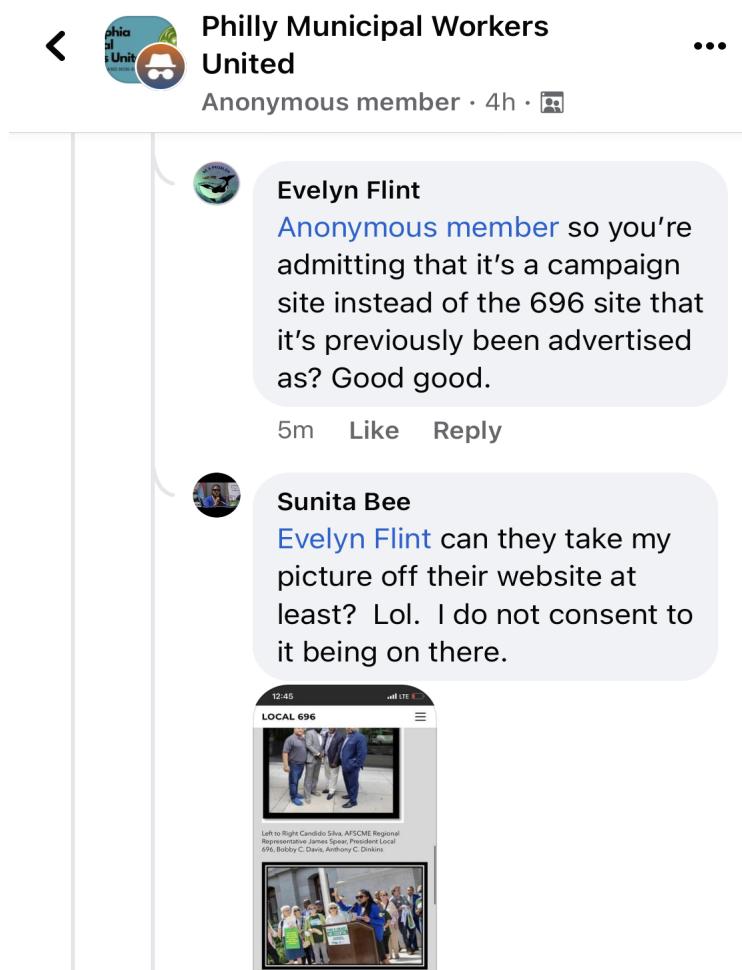
**Matt Catron**

Has Tony explained why this website was down from April through early July?




Screenshot 21: 7/13: reply from Anonymous to Matt Catron




Screenshot 22: 7/13: reply to Anonymous with clarification question from Evelyn Flint (plus comment from a DC 47 member about SBU using a photo of them without their consent)




Screenshot 23: 7/14: Anonymous admitting that the website switched back and forth from campaign site to official site


**Philly Municipal Workers United**

**Anonymous member** · 1d · 

[Anonymous member](#) why isn't Tony here to be asked? Last time I talked to him, he refused to come out and meet the membership at the debate.


14m   Like   Reply

 Write a reply...

**Anonymous member**

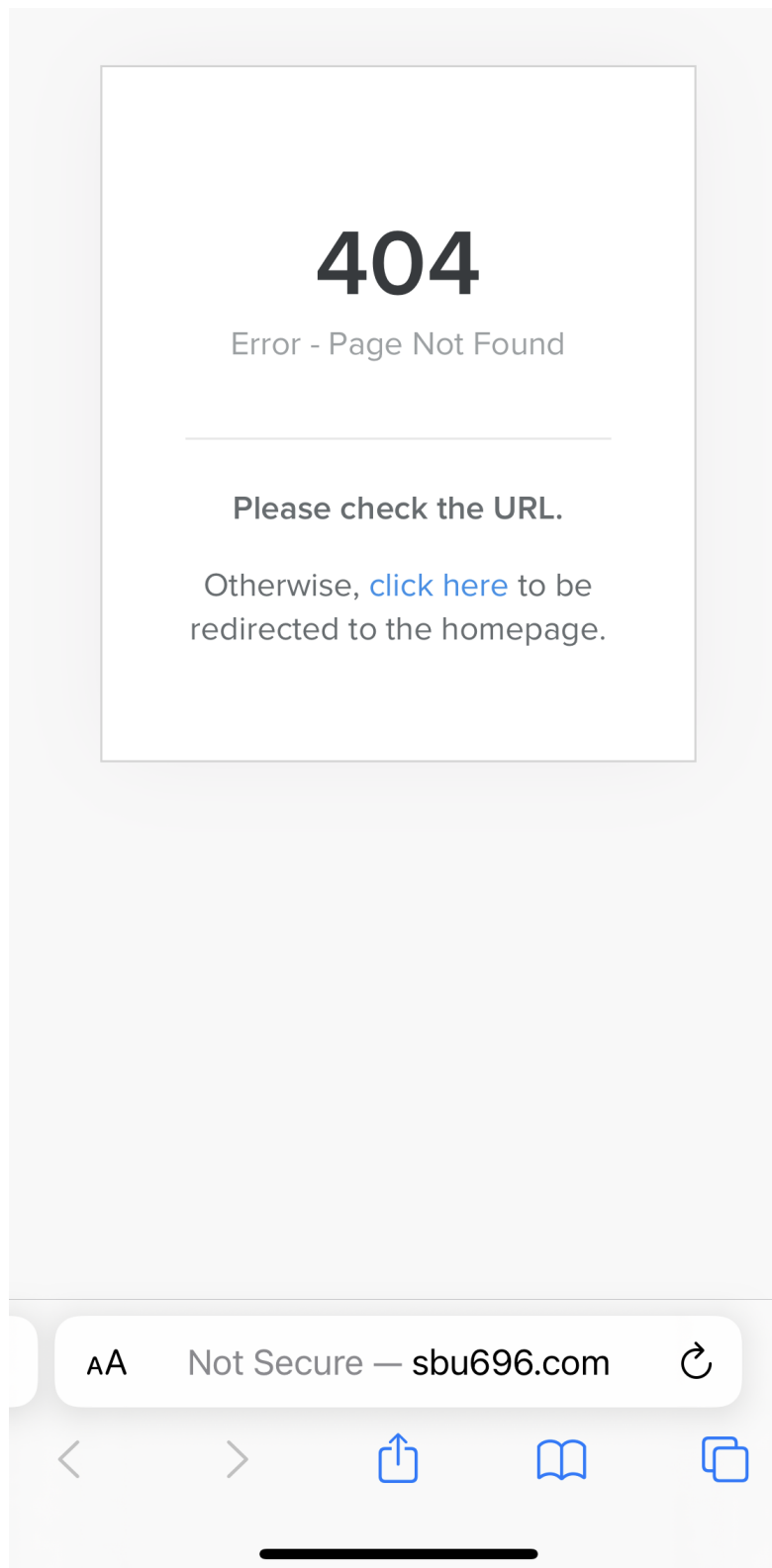
If you noticed after the election it switched to the Local's website

2h   Like   Reply

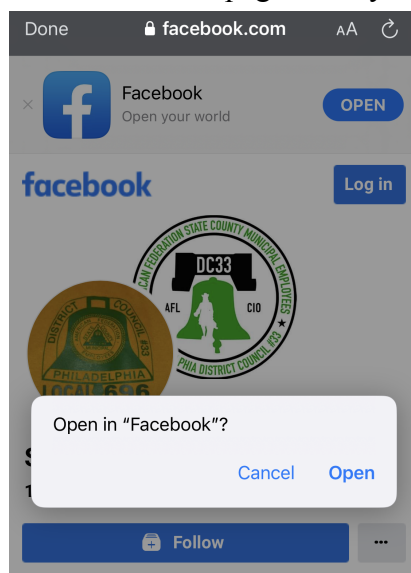
**Matt Catron**

[Anonymous member](#) it went down after the election, and is being used for campaign purposes. That's an AFSCME International Constitution violation, which the SBU would know if they understood their own organization.

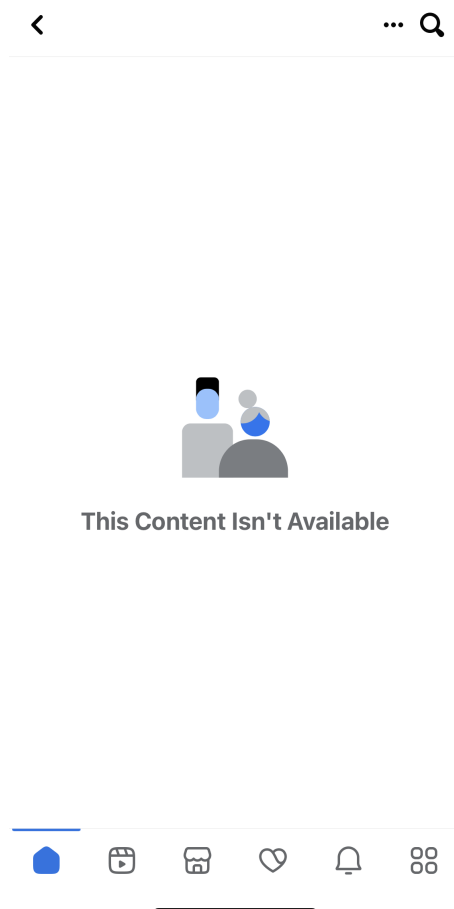
Screenshot 24: 7/25: website down again



Screenshot 25: 7/19: link to open the Facebook page sent by another member who can view it



Screenshot 26: 7/19: error message when Evelyn Flint tried to open link to Facebook page



## Protest 4: Union Card Submission

In AFSCME International Judicial Decision JPC 23-024, protest item 8 alleged that new members were unfairly denied their right to vote. Judicial Panel Member Denise Gilmore. At that time, we submitted insufficient evidence to prove our claim: Members who were hired by the City of Philadelphia between January and March were falsely documented as joining AFSCME on 23 March 2023, in spite of having signed union cards weeks or months earlier.

While those individuals have had their issues corrected, we have discovered the same behavior took place once again, this time with a group of new hires who went through union orientation with Mary Kachline, Mark Weaver, and Anthony Dinkins on 20 June 2023.

The election rules were explicit in their terms. Rule 3 states,

“Only members who have signed pledge card on file with District Council #33 by June 30, 2023 may vote.”

in no uncertain terms. We do not have access to the complete list of employees hired by the City of Philadelphia on 20 June 2023, but eight have come forward and offered their names. They are as follows:

Robbie Molinari  
Kass (Grant) Gaffney  
Thea Flurry  
Scott Radway

Maya Robinson  
Donna Hopkins  
Anthony Silvestro  
Matthew Ransom

These eight individuals approached Rabble Rouser candidates with questions regarding their right to vote, their status as union members, and most importantly of all, their healthcare benefits.

In the interest of fairness to Kachline, Weaver, and Dinkins, 20 June 2023 was a confusing day at that work location. The orientation in question was interrupted by a building emergency at Parkway Central Library. The building was abruptly closed during the new hire orientation. The eight members listed above reported that they were told their initial union cards were misplaced as a result of that confusion, and they were asked to re-sign on 28 June 2023.

None of them received ballots, or were even told about their eligibility to vote.



### **AFSCME Local 696**

#### **Election Rules**

1. The election is being administered by the American Arbitration Association. All inquiry about the election **MUST** be addressed by the election committee only.
2. **To be eligible for office, a member must be in good standing for one year immediately preceding the election.**
3. Only members who have signed pledge card on file with District Council #33 by June 30, 2023 may vote.
4. Mailings can **only** be requested through the union office. A sample of what is being mailed out must be attached to the request. The committee has selected Strassheim Printing or Cheltenham Printing to process the mailings. The cost of the mailing is the responsibility of each candidate.
5. **At no time will a membership list, in any form, be given to a Candidate or Slate.**
6. American Arbitration Association is scheduled to mail the Ballots out to Local 696 Members by Friday, June 30, 2023.
7. All Ballots must be received in the American Arbitration Association Office by Wednesday, July 19, 2023 by 5:00PM. Only ballots mailed via US Postal Service will be included. No other carrier and no walk-in Ballots will be accepted.
8. Ballots will be counted on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 11:00AM, at the American Arbitration Association (AAA), 230 South Broad Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102-4106. The list and ballot box (tray) will be available at the AAA for the Observer's review from 10:00AM to 11:00AM on Thursday, July 20, 2023. Observers may not individually touch any Ballots or Ballot Envelopes but, may request the Clerk to show them any specific ones that they have questions about. Following the Count, the Election Committee will Post results at District Council # 33 office outside of Room 5-2 by 3:00PM.
9. Each Candidate is entitled to one Observer. Only one Observer per Candidate will be permitted in the Counting Room at any one time. No other candidates or members will be permitted at the American Arbitration Association Offices during the count.
10. Observers must have signed authorization from a Candidate in order to observe the counting of the ballots.
11. Any AFSCME Member is eligible to be an Observer. Proof of membership must be made by Tuesday July 11, 2023. Everyone will be required to show ID.

12. Any interference or disruptive behavior with the Election Committee Members or Election Day process will result in removal from the Counting Room.
13. A Duplicate Ballot will not be counted if an Original Ballot is received.
14. Rules for marking the Ballot will be mailed with the Ballot.
15. A member who wishes to vote but who has not received a Ballot by Friday July 7, 2023 must call **AAA** at 215-731-2280.
16. Any additional information about the rules refer to the AFSCME International Constitution "Appendix D" Election Code ([afscme.org](http://afscme.org)) or AFSCME Local Union Election Manual.
17. If you need to contact the Election Committee email to: [Secretary696@aol.com](mailto:Secretary696@aol.com). The email mailbox will be monitored daily.



## Protest 5: Endorsements

Candidate Anthony Dinkins solicited and received a written endorsement from Main Line Health, specifically Bernadette Banta, Account Manager at Mirmont Treatment Center (attached).

Page 10 of the Local Union Election Manual) states:

1. No union funds or resources, and no funds or resources of any employer, can be used in campaigning for union office.
2. No publication of any kind which is sponsored by or supported by the union can make any endorsement or otherwise support any candidate for union office.
3. Any member who has been nominated for office or who announces an intention to run for office has the right to one mailing to the membership made through the union office before the election. This mailing is not to be made at the union's expense.



100 Yearsley Mill Road  
Lima, Pa 19063  
Tel 484.227.1400  
Fax 484.227.1406  
mainlinehealth.org

Bernadette Banta  
Account Manager  
Mirmont Treatment Center  
7/9/2023

Subject: Reference Letter for Anthony Dinkins for President of Local 696

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to support Anthony Dinkins for President of Local 696. Having worked directly with Anthony Dinkins while he held the position as the Business Agent for the last 4 years, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand his exceptional leadership qualities, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the well-being and betterment of the union and its members.

As an account manager for behavioral health services, I have witnessed firsthand the positive effects of Anthony Dinkins investment on his Union members and their families in regards to mental health. Anthony's commitment to tailoring services to meet every members unique needs and promoting long-term recovery shows he works diligently for his union members.

For members to openly discuss their behavioral health concerns with Anthony and actively pursue behavioral health services is truly commendable. It is evident that they trust, respect and understand the value of seeking professional help and are motivated to take the necessary steps towards healing and personal development.

His remarkable leadership abilities, integrity, advocacy for members, effective communication, and relationship-building skills make him an outstanding candidate for this role. I firmly believe that under his guidance, the union will thrive, and the interests of its members will be safeguarded and enhanced.

Should you require any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Banta  
Account Manager

## Protest 6: Mailing List

On 29 June 2023, Strassheim Graphic Design & Press, quoted via email the membership as 1062 and cited the cost for handling the campaign literature. 30 June 2023, after questioning the membership list and totals, I, Sharon Thorpe, received another email stating that they are now using the new mailing list that was used on the last union mailing. The membership is now cited at 1153.

Revised Election Rule #4. states: Mailings can only be requested through the union office. A sample of what is being mailed out must be attached to the request. The committee has selected Strassheim Printing or Cheltenham Printing to process the mailings. The cost of the mailings is the responsibility of each candidate. When I questioned Strassheim if they had received the membership mailing list from the Secretary-Treasurer of DC33, I was informed that they already had the list. During the Zoom meeting conducted on June 27, 2023 I was explicitly informed by Bobby Davis that the mail-out would follow the previous process, via the same printing agency, Strassheim.

According to the revised Election Committee Rules #5. States: At no time will a membership list in any form, be given to a Candidate or Slate. The SBU Slate, by their affiliation with Strassheim Printing, was provided with the membership list.

Strassheim is the company that oversees the printing and postal notification needs of Local 696. This arrangement was established under the administration of then-President Bobby Davis. They are also the same agency used during the March election.

**Campaign mail out**

5 messages

Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>  
To: bill@strassheim.com

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 9:05 AM

Good morning Bill,

I was directed by Rachel to contact you regarding the cost for campaign literature for an upcoming election. I am one of the candidates for Local 696.

Our information is prepared and only requires labels and postage.

I await your response.

Bill Strassheim <bill@strassheim.com>  
To: Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 9:49 AM

Hi Sharon,

The price to Address and Meter 1062 Pieces is \$87 and the cost of postage is \$509.76

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS\*\*\***

Thank you,

Bill Strassheim Jr.

Strassheim Graphic Design & Press Corp.  
1500 Spring Garden St Ste 225

Philadelphia PA 19130

Phone: 215.525.5134

Cell: 267.371.3124

Fax: 215.525.9011

Email: bill@strassheim.com

[www.strassheim.com](http://www.strassheim.com)

[Quoted text hidden]

Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>  
To: Bill Strassheim <bill@strassheim.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 10:15 AM

Thanks Bill,  
I can bring the information today.  
let me know

[Quoted text hidden]

Bill Strassheim <bill@strassheim.com>  
To: Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 10:32 AM

Sounds good. Someone will be here until 4:30. Thank you!

[Quoted text hidden]

Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>  
To: Bill Strassheim <bill@strassheim.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 11:39 AM

Great.

[Quoted text hidden]

**Mail-out**

2 messages

**Sharon Thorpe** <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>  
To: Bill Strassheim <bill@strassheim.com>

Fri, Jun 30, 2023 at 9:33 AM

I have the additional documents, I removed too many yesterday.  
Any update from yesterday?

**Bill Strassheim** <bill@strassheim.com>  
To: Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 30, 2023 at 10:17 AM

Hi Sharon,

We are working on it now I have the newer list that we used on the last union mailing. It is 1153 Pieces. Are you able to bring the rest of the printed pieces soon?

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS\*\*\***

Thank you,

Bill Strassheim Jr.

Strassheim Graphic Design & Press Corp.  
1500 Spring Garden St Ste 225

Philadelphia PA 19130

Phone: 215.525.5134

Cell: 267.371.3124

Fax: 215.525.9011

Email: [bill@strassheim.com](mailto:bill@strassheim.com)

[www.strassheim.com](http://www.strassheim.com)

[Quoted text hidden]

## Pricing - Mailing for Election

2 messages

Rachel Strassheim <rachel@strassheim.com>  
To: "mz.thorpe60@gmail.com" <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>

Sun, Mar 19, 2023 at 11:27 AM

Hi Sharon,

It was nice to speak to you the other day. Sorry about the delay. Below is the pricing for the mailing.

They just updated the list a couple of weeks ago, and the final count is 1,062 members. (The previous list was just over 1200).

Qty: 1,062 – Mailing, Address Supplied Stuffed Stamped Envelopes (either by imprint or labels), Deliver to Post Office - \$87.48 + \$7.00 (Sales Taxes) = Total \$94.48

Let me know if you have any questions. Our address is below. When you come to drop off the mail – go to the loading dock in the rear of the building (middle entrance on Hamilton Street – between 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Streets).

When you get there – call Eddy at 609-206-3221 on his cell – he will run down and get the mail from you at the dock. They will give you a heads up when they're about a half hour from finishing up and you can meet them at the dock again, inspect the mail and then follow them over to the post office at 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

Thank You,

Rachel Strassheim

Strassheim Graphic Design & Press Corp.

1500 Spring Garden St Ste 225

Philadelphia, PA 19130

Office: 215.525.5134

Cell: 215.850.9933

Fax: 215.525.9011

Email: [Rachel@strassheim.com](mailto:Rachel@strassheim.com)

[www.strassheim.com](http://www.strassheim.com)

Sharon Thorpe <mz.thorpe60@gmail.com>  
To: "J. Matthew Catron" <jmcatron@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 20, 2023 at 10:48 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rachel Strassheim <rachel@strassheim.com>  
Date: Sun, Mar 19, 2023, 11:27 AM

## Protest 7: Fatina El

Our final item of protest transcends election misconduct. It is so personal, so virulent, so egregious that in spite of the Judicial Panel's honorable commitment to resolving disputes between members without resort to courts and lawyers, we are consulting with external legal counsel.

Incumbent Treasurer Fatina El has executed a vile smear campaign against Candidate for Business Agent J. Matthew Catron. On 13 July 2023 at 5:00 PM, Treasurer El circulated an email to Local 696 workers in an attempt to imply that Mr. Catron is a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

The list of emails was not blind-copied, and contains two employer-owned email accounts. The email is attached below. The member who shared this with our team was so fearful of similar attacks from Treasurer El that they requested we redact their name from the record, and we have done so.

The email contains a photo of Mr. Catron from the year 2018, on a day when he found a tote bag branded with the Free Library of Philadelphia and put it on his head, as if it were a hat. It was a trivial, nonsensical event that was only worthy of documentation in its mild humor. The email then shows a photo of a red Klan hood on a mannequin, as if to imply that Mr. Catron was a member, or aspiring member, of one of the most repulsive hate groups in the history of the world. It also contains a Facebook post from 7 June 2023 where Mr. Catron used humor referencing the Lord of the Rings to comment on the Air Quality Alerts being issued by the National Weather Service at that time. The full text of the post is attached, but as it is still public, and will remain public, we are attaching a link for your digital convenience.

<https://www.facebook.com/J.Matthew.Catron/posts/pfbid0Z6thNANa1qBGvtdh5SSbjSpwqZVAdYZUTTPNrM3narYrfZ4AtdAVBQdF3BJULC2gl>

As a component part of this smear campaign, a second photo and Facebook post from Mr. Catron is also circulating, from around the same time. We do not know if Fatina El sent out these messages, as the AFSCME member who submitted them to Vice Presidential Candidate Deanna Jones also asked not to be named. The photo will be attached below, and we are submitting a direct link as well. Mr. Catron has chosen to let the post remain public, as it can not be interpreted as anything other than historical critique by a reasonable party.

<https://www.facebook.com/J.Matthew.Catron/posts/pfbid02CSrcXg2kNS7awugX5CZXcFK7PwEXr7PQOFXsb1vUU5AdPuxgPv3VCfnp466P8jdvl>

The photo that has circulated crops the caption of the photo, showing only the DVD cover of “Triumph of the Will” in Mr. Catron’s hand, a Nazi propaganda film cataloged and circulated by the Free Library of Philadelphia. The caption depicts a conversation between Mr. Catron and an unnamed coworker about the contents of the film, and specifically how it impacted the making of 1977’s Star Wars.

The post, the photo, and the comments below them condemn fascism and racism in all its forms.

We do not feel that it is necessary to explain to the Judicial Panel the potential harm caused to Mr. Catron’s reputation, his physical wellbeing, or his future employment prospects. Treasurer El’s conduct is libelous. It is defamation of character.

Fatina El was one of the reasons that Judicial Panel Member Denise Gilmore specifically cited in her overturning of the first Local 696 election in case JPC 23-024. El has demonstrated that she is unable or unwilling to disengage from such inappropriate conduct- indeed, the behavior described here is significantly worse than what was condemned in Gilmore’s June 7 decision.

In addition to this election protest, we will file charges against Treasurer El for her conduct, and Mr. Catron is currently consulting with legal counsel.



**Subject:** Fwd: Smh  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 7/14/2023 3:23:29 PM  
**To:** "J. Matthew Catron" <[matt@696rabblersusers.com](mailto:matt@696rabblersusers.com)>;  
**Attachments:** Matt facebook Photo's.pdf; IMG\_4711 (3).jpg

Good afternoon again,

This is a forward of the original email I received

----- Forwarded message -----

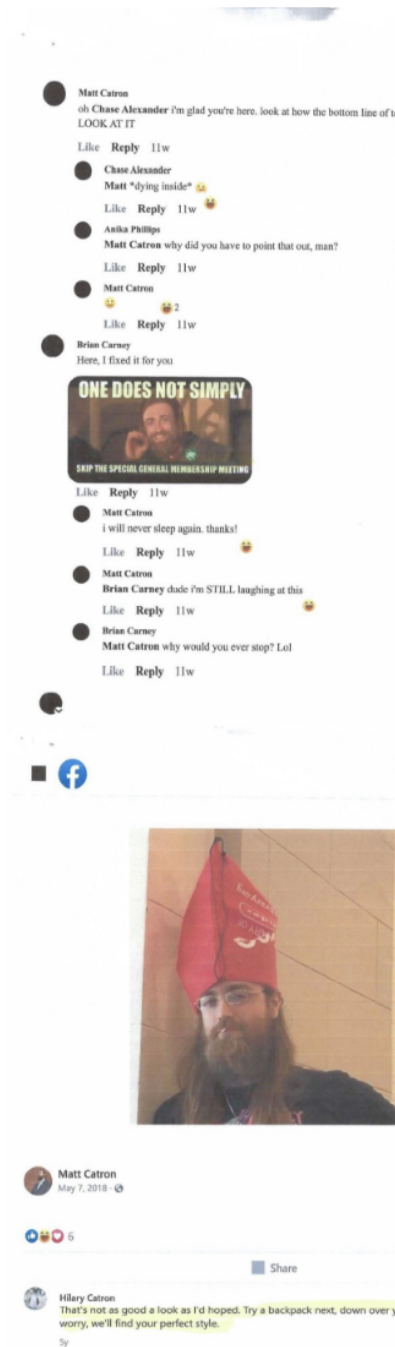
From: **Fatina El** <[fatinael696@gmail.com](mailto:fatinael696@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Jul 13, 2023, 5:00 PM

Subject: Smh

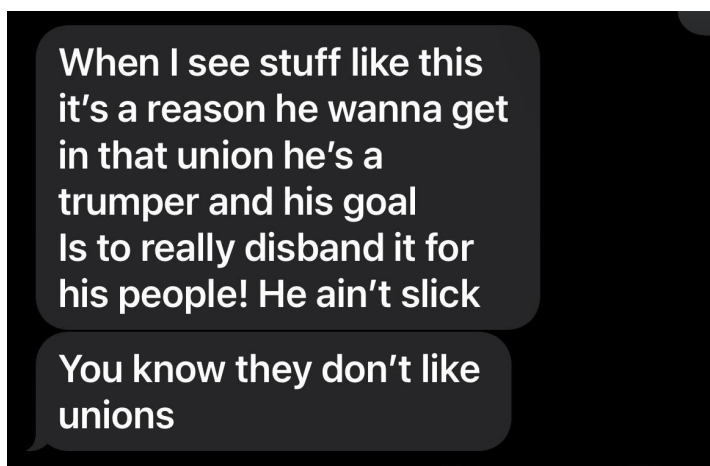
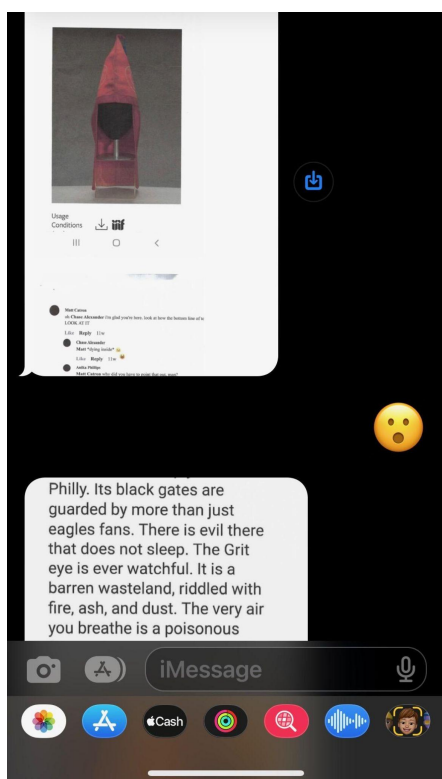
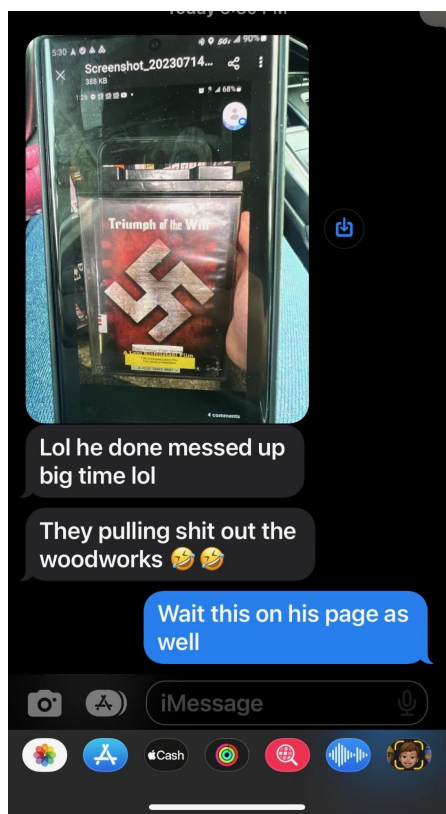
To: Naeem Wilson <[nwilson5454@gmail.com](mailto:nwilson5454@gmail.com)>, LaTanya Pratt <[lpratt267@gmail.com](mailto:lpratt267@gmail.com)>, Michael McNeil <[mkm20576@gmail.com](mailto:mkm20576@gmail.com)>, Angela Kirby <[aconner850@yahoo.com](mailto:aconner850@yahoo.com)>, Latasha Thomas <[thomas.latasha9840@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.latasha9840@gmail.com)>, DeAngela Floyd <[dnglprc@gmail.com](mailto:dnglprc@gmail.com)>, Salema Law <[s.law215@yahoo.com](mailto:s.law215@yahoo.com)>, Rhaleah Frazier-Carter <[rheleah\\_bond@yahoo.com](mailto:rheleah_bond@yahoo.com)>, Nadea Luckett <[nadealu@hotmail.com](mailto:nadealu@hotmail.com)>, Desire' Thomas <[dlthomas723@gmail.com](mailto:dlthomas723@gmail.com)>, Tara Gatewood <[no1phillygirl@gmail.com](mailto:no1phillygirl@gmail.com)>, Melissa Rose <[melissamiarose@yahoo.com](mailto:melissamiarose@yahoo.com)>, Londiea Casterlow <[londeiacasterlow@yahoo.com](mailto:londeiacasterlow@yahoo.com)>, Reginald Brasby <[reginaldbrasbyjr@gmail.com](mailto:reginaldbrasbyjr@gmail.com)>, Tiffany Bacon <[bacon.tiffany@gmail.com](mailto:bacon.tiffany@gmail.com)>, Joyce Ruff <[raspberridiva@gmail.com](mailto:raspberridiva@gmail.com)>, Wanda Ingram <[wandacingram@yahoo.com](mailto:wandacingram@yahoo.com)>, Joseph Smith <[joeaaa186@yahoo.com](mailto:joeaaa186@yahoo.com)>, Niya Moss <[nicholeni78@yahoo.com](mailto:nicholeni78@yahoo.com)>, Kiara Cleveland <[kiara.cleveland@yahoo.com](mailto:kiara.cleveland@yahoo.com)>, Crystal Chamberlain <[crystalchamberlain@yahoo.com](mailto:crystalchamberlain@yahoo.com)>, Katie Everly-Turner <[Katie.Everly-Turner@phila.gov](mailto:Katie.Everly-Turner@phila.gov)>, Tiana Johnson <[tiamajohnson@gmail.com](mailto:tiamajohnson@gmail.com)>, Lakeisha Dandy <[kiki8926@gmail.com](mailto:kiki8926@gmail.com)>, Alfredo Jefferson <[alsolis215@gmail.com](mailto:alsolis215@gmail.com)>, Sandra Thomas <[lady.thomas@verizon.net](mailto:lady.thomas@verizon.net)>, Mary Otero <[mary.oterophila.gov](mailto:mary.oterophila.gov)>, Lajuane Tilghman <[producs73@aol.com](mailto:producs73@aol.com)>, Kelly Reeves <[kelly\\_reeves@msn.com](mailto:kelly_reeves@msn.com)>, Fadela Djenas <[Djfadela@gmail.com](mailto:Djfadela@gmail.com)>, Courtney <[crtnyaggr@msn.com](mailto:crtnyaggr@msn.com)>, Christine Aboeldahb <[caboeldahb@gmail.com](mailto:caboeldahb@gmail.com)>, Jason Hand <[jhand002@gmail.com](mailto:jhand002@gmail.com)>, Dorene Blakely <[dorene.blakey@gmail.com](mailto:dorene.blakey@gmail.com)>, Aeisha Battle <[aeisha.mccrea@hotmail.com](mailto:aeisha.mccrea@hotmail.com)>, Eric Isakoff <[e.isakoff19@gmail.com](mailto:e.isakoff19@gmail.com)>, Kimberly Brittingham <[kbritt72@ymail.com](mailto:kbritt72@ymail.com)>, Wendy Craig <[wdrector77@gmail.com](mailto:wdrector77@gmail.com)>, Daniela Ramos <[dd\\_ramos@aol.com](mailto:dd_ramos@aol.com)>, Lowery Tanya <[patpatjohn@verizon.net](mailto:patpatjohn@verizon.net)>, Saida Byrd <[ssbyrd16@gmail.com](mailto:ssbyrd16@gmail.com)>, Dana <[dacart6@aol.com](mailto:dacart6@aol.com)>, Mark Romasky <[themarkromasky@gmail.com](mailto:themarkromasky@gmail.com)>, Cindy Garcia <[696cindygarcia@gmail.com](mailto:696cindygarcia@gmail.com)>, Tori Rogers <[trsecretary696@gmail.com](mailto:trsecretary696@gmail.com)>





In Solidarity,

**Fatina El**





**Matt Catron**

August 11, 2018 · 🌐

...

[#TodayAtTheLibrary](#)

Me: Coworker! Do you know what this is?

Coworker shakes their head.

Me: it's called "Triumph of the Will". It's a Nazi propaganda film from 1934. I'm astonished this is in our collection.

Coworker: ...okay

Me: George Lucas saw this when he was in film school. You know the throne room sequence from the end of the first Star Wars? Almost identical to a scene from this movie where Hitler is parading around and saluting his soldiers.

Coworker: That's... creepy.

Me: right? Let's see here... "Leni Riefenstahl, Adolf Hitler's hand-picked and favorite film director, worked for much of the Third Reich. She was a pioneer..."

Coworker: she? Wow! Equal opportunity for women. How progressive.

Me: as long as you're really racist



## Closing remarks

After the 7 June 2023 overturning of the Local 696 election, we expected that the Election Committee and the candidates of the SBU would have learned and studied what sort of conduct is acceptable in an election. We have studied Appendix D of the AFSCME International Constitution 2022 extensively and we have read, and re-read, the AFSCME Local Union Election Manual. We have done our due diligence and have acted appropriately according to the rules of AFSCME on all levels: Local, Council, and International.

It is terribly upsetting to learn that not only has the behavior of leadership remained unchanged, some elements have increased in scale. The Election Committee chaired by Darlene Booker-Jones and advised by former President Bobby Davis have proven unfit for their duties. We request that AFSCME International intervene directly by conducting the election themselves to ensure that the membership of Local 696 have a proper election- one free from interference, intimidation, libel, and misconduct.