



The Fight Continues...Are You In?

THE

December 2016—Volume 25



party in **Frontenac!**

More Photos at nteu14.org

Message from the President



America's Federal workforce relentlessly pursues the mission of bringing lasting change to the lives of ordinary people across America, often at great personal sacrifice and in the toughest of circumstances-- including politics that does not always fully recognize the value of their work. Visit our website at nteu14.org to watch the entire video today!

This Month's Highlights!

- Message From Obama
- Creditable Service Updated
- Locality Pay Increase
- 2016 Holiday Party
- 2 Hours of Admin Time
- Names Requested of Feds
- December Milestones



This year's holiday party—*The After Party* was truly a comedic and classy evening! We took a pause to honor those we are fighting for...YOU (our members). Please visit our website and even our Facebook page for many photos of the event! As the 2016 year comes to a close, we at Chapter 14 would like to wish you and your families Happy Holidays with an oh-so grand New Year!





Names requested of Department of Energy employees on climate change.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

This was an event for which National President Tony Reardon appeared on CNN and ABC. The request that reportedly came from the incoming administration's transition team to the Department of Energy for the names of individual federal employees who worked on climate change is causing a great deal of concern. NTEU represents many of these em-

ployees and they have a lot of questions about what this request means and who is requesting this information. Chapters sent a letter to Secretary Moniz requesting that the names not be turned over and the Department has refused to do so, but that does not mean the issue is resolved. This morning Reardon appeared on CNN to discuss the issue and explain why DOE employees are upset and why integrity and independence from politics are so important to their work. Additionally, Reardon taped an interview with Brian Ross of ABC News for a story

scheduled for this evening's edition of ABC News which airs at 6:30 local times. He stressed that DOE employees are nonpartisan and that civil servants are there to serve the public. This afternoon, CNN, CQ and other media outlets reported that the Trump transition team had disavowed the questionnaire seeking information on individual employees. NTEU is always committed to protecting the rights of our members and we will be vigilant during the change of administrations.

2017 Locality Pay Increase

For St. Louis, St. Charles, Farmington, (Missouri & Illinois) it will be 2.18%. The President sent Congressional leaders a second letter transmitting revised alternative locality pay rates for calendar year 2017 for federal civilian workers in the General Schedule. That's great news!

Reminder for Time Off

Remember—managers are authorized to grant employees two hours of excused absence (administrative leave). This excused absence may be approved for any appropriate time during the workday and, if preferred, may be combined with lunch periods to accommodate an extended holiday office luncheon. This is the only excused absence officially authorized for holiday events and provides service-wide consistency and equitable treatment for all employees. The time will be authorized by December 31st, 2016 and managers are not authorized to grant extensions beyond this date.



Congratulations to our Members for their 5 Years of Service!

- Rosiemary M. Williams*
- Ranisha L. Jones*
- Janet L. Cobler*
- John G. Chambless*
- Naya T. Bennett*
- Cassandra Bonner*
- Kim M. Kelly-Davis*
- Benjamin D. Clark*
- Kay F. Long*
- Sharon A. Sackman*



Creditable Service Update

Effective December 8th, 2016, there will no longer be a requirement for creditable service to be "substantially continuous" for career tenure purposes and references to the 30-day break in service rule will be eliminated. As a result, under the new rule, all federal service will be credited toward career tenure regardless of whether or not there is a break in service, and employees will be eligible to receive career tenure after completing three years of total creditable service as described in 5 CFR 315.201(b). Currently, a single break in creditable service of more than 30 calendar days requires the beginning of a new three-year period, except in limited circumstances.



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