

Welcome Returning Seasonals And 2014 New Hires!



NTEU Signs Agreement on 2014 NPAA Awards!

After months of heated negotiations, endless hearings, and countless trips back and forth to the Capitol, NTEU has finally reached a signed agreement with the IRS for the 2014 NPAA program. With countless hours from our own esteemed President Pam Sturm, who was part of the negotiating team for these awards, Chapter 14 is proud to have been a part of the fight for our membership's rights to receive what they were promised. For those employees who might have elected cash or time off, in lieu of a QSI, you can expect a full 3% of your salary for that award. In a trying time of government uncertainty, cutbacks, furloughs, and financial pitfalls, we are extremely proud to announce that the Fiscal Year 2014 NPAA awards, are scheduled to be paid on March 19th, 2015, with 2015 awards to be paid out in December 2015.



Another Amazing Year!

On behalf of Chapter 14, our Officers, and Stewards, we would like to extend our thanks to all who attended and made our 2014 Holiday Party a success. We had a blast and hope you did too! We look forward to seeing you next year!

Chapter 14 would like to extend a **HUGE** Welcome Back to our returning seasonals. We would also love to welcome to the team our 87 newly hired CSR's in our Saint Louis Callsite. If any of our members should happen to run across them in the hallways, please make them feel at home. We would like to remind everyone that our office hours are from 8:30A-4:00P Monday through Friday, but we are available to assist you with any of your issues at any time. If for some reason our office doors are not open, please don't hesitate to contact any of our stewards by email or in person. We are here to help and are glad to assist in any way that we can, whether it be an appraisal, disciplinary action, FMLA paperwork, or just confidential advice. Information is freely available on our website <http://www.nteu14.org> with a complete list of stewards found under the Defense Team 14 Tab. Please like us on **Facebook & Twitter** at **NTEU Chapter 14!** We update these daily and they are a great source of information for current events that effect our members!

This Month's Highlights!

- 2014 IRS Employee Awards
- Returning Seasonals/New Hires
- Letter to the Editor
- 2014 Holiday Party
- 2015 Leave Records
- FY 2015 Budget
- 2015 Mileage Reimbursement



Letter to the Editor

We want to hear from you!

Do you have a great idea you think would be great for our newsletter? Do you have something you think would benefit our members? Please send any ideas for our newsletter to our email address, we would love to hear your feedback!

NTEU
The National Treasury Employees Union
Chapter 14 • St. Louis, Missouri

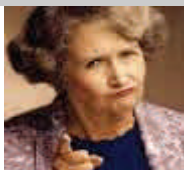
nteu14@gmail.com

2015 Leave Records



Start the 2015 year right! Keep track of your leave taken so there aren't discrepancies or oversights, visit our website www.nteu14.org and click on "Breaking News" portal for the "Defense 14 Newsletter" page.

The 2015 Leave Record form will be available in a .PDF format for your convenience.



Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

As you may or may not have heard, Congress has passed the FY 2015 spending bill. While it is good that we have a working spending bill, and don't suffer from the threat of a shutdown like in the past, we are extremely disappointed in seeing further cuts to the IRS Budget down to \$10.9 billion—a reduction of 3 percent.

As Congress considered the FY 2015 spending package, NTEU was in ongoing discussions with the IRS. Now that the bill is approved and the numbers are final, we are working with the IRS to mitigate the impact on our employees and analyze how your work can be performed under these circumstances. We will work to ensure that you are not expected to bear the brunt of these cuts through increases in your overly heavy workloads.

We are working diligently to represent your interests and ensure the voices of our employees are heard!

2015 Mileage Reimbursement Rate



Proper reimbursement for federal employees using their privately-owned vehicles for government purposes is a high priority for NTEU. Currently, travelers are reimbursed 56 cents a mile. Mileage reimbursement is set by the General Services Administration (GSA) based on an annual review of costs, up to a ceiling set by the IRS for tax purposes.

Earlier this week, the IRS announced that they were increasing the gas mileage reimbursement rate from 56 cents a mile to 57.5 cents, effective January 1, 2015. Proper reimbursement for federal employees using their privately-owned vehicles for government purposes is a high priority for NTEU.



2015 Pens & Calendars Are In

We have finally received the 2015 Pens and Calendars! As we are sadly no longer attending all of the team meetings, we are asking that all members please come to our Office on the 6th floor to pick theirs up. Our Office is generally open from 8:30A-4:00P so please feel free to stop on by any time and pick yours up! Don't wait, we have a limited supply so get yours while they last!



Commissioner Holds Media Briefing

Commissioner John Koskinen held a media briefing on December 19, 2014 about taxpayer services and how taxpayers can get help this filing season. When asked about how the IRS would deal with the severe budget cuts, the commissioner mentioned that a shutdown of the agency would be considered a "last resort." He also mentioned shorter seasons for seasonals, a hiring freeze, freezing overtime and more.

This short-sighted decision by some in Congress to once more deprive the IRS of the necessary resources to do its job will hurt all taxpayers. NTEU will continue to work diligently representing our members' interests and to ensure that the voices of employees are heard.



Chapter 14 • St. Louis, Missouri



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