



NTEU Sues OPM Over Data Breach



By now I'm sure most of you have seen the news. The chances are very high that your personal information has been stolen as part of one of the two Data Breaches that occurred in the Office of Personnel Management. We've been carefully watching the situation as it unfolds, and have heard your questions and concerns.

Have I been a victim? How much of my information was taken? Does this include my spouse and anyone else living in my home? What is NTEU doing about this? We've heard all of these questions and more. NTEU has been active in their advocacy of our members. After weighing our options, and careful determination, NTEU has filed suit against the Office of Personnel Management in an attempt to secure Lifetime Identity Theft Protection for our **MEMBERS**. **It's not too late to join and be protected!** NTEU has also asked the judge to rule that OPM failed in its duty to safeguard your personal information. Finally we have asked that the judge order OPM to remove our members data until such time that OPM can properly safeguard it.

Senate Bill Proposed To Protect Federal Employees

NTEU Supported Legislation has been introduced into the Senate to address the two recent OPM Data Breaches.

The RECOVER (Reducing the Effects of the Cyberattack on OPM Victims Emergency Response Act of 2015) will mandate expanded identify theft coverage for federal workers, Contractors, and other effected individuals, including lifetime coverage and not less than \$5 million worth ID Theft Insurance. This would include any family members living in your household.

Continued on Pg. 2

This Month's Highlights!

- NTEU Sues OPM
- Senate Bill Proposed
- Letter to the Editor
- Summer Recruitment
- SB/SE Grievances
- G Fund Rate Reduction



We want to hear from you!

Do you have a great idea you think would be great for our newsletter?

nteu14@gmail.com

Summer Recruitment

Don't forget we are still running the Summer Membership Drive, that's \$50 for every new member you sign up! And some NTEU Swag for them! Our strength is our members!



Continued from Pg 1

Sens. Ben Cardin, Barbara Mikulski, Mark Warner, and Tim Kaine introduced a Senate version, with Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton introducing a similar measure in the House.

We are extremely thankful to these Elected Leaders for their concern about the welfare of our members. We are in full support of this bill, and are working our hardest to support it's passage.

You can also help by contacting your Elected Leaders and asking them to also support this legislation. In an effort to make it as easy as possible to make your voices heard, we have created letter templates on Capwiz.

Send the letters by clicking [HERE](#).
On your break or lunch.

NTEU Files National Grievances Against SB/SE



NTEU has filed a continuing National Grievance because of SB/SE's rollout of the new modeling and selection programs for the FTD Alert Program,

The new FTD program runs simultaneously with the existing FTD Alert Program, resulting in the assignment of 5,000 additional FTD Alerts to bargaining unit employees other

at least every quarter. It is our belief that these changes to the FTD Alert program constitutes a violation of Article 47, Section 2 of the Contract, as well as an Unfair Labor Practice.

Under the FTD Alert Program, there is a 15 calendar day timeframe from assignment of the alert. The timeframe for making initial contact on balance due, or delinquent return cases is 45 days from assignment. Based on information provided to NTEU, it is our belief that by implementing this new modeling and selection program, SB/SE has begun assigning FTD Alerts to employees that should instead be classified as balance due, or delinquent return cases. The consequence of this is causing cases that should have 45 day timeframes to be completed, to now have a 15 day timeframe.

NTEU has also filed a second National Grievance because of SB/SE's continued use of specialized requirements for filling RA (Excise Tax Specialist) and RA (Special Enforcement Programs) positions.

We feel that these arbitrary requirements are not related to the performance of the position, and will lead to applicants being arbitrarily disqualified from consideration from these positions.

We are asking that in both instances the IRS cease and desist from violating the contract and the law, that they return to status quo and provide notice and bargain over any proposed changes to the program, and that they make whole any bargaining unit employee adversely impacted by this change, as well as a notice stating that the agency has violated the contract and the law in both of these instances.

We will keep you up to date as more information becomes available

Congress Attempts To Reduce G Fund Rate



Early in July, discussions took place in Congress to reduce the G Fund's interest rate, in order to pay for the Highway Bill.

NTEU is firmly opposed to any reductions to the value of the G Fund. We feel that this would be a serious mistake, and not one easily undone.

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) was created when the CSRS was updated with the FERS system which placed federal employees under Social Security. The G Fund is one of the five Funds that make up the TSP's Core.

FERS is frequently pointed to by workforce experts as a model of the three-legged stool structure (defined benefits, defined contributions, and Social Security), for meeting workers job portability needs. FERS is a fully funded and financially sound system with absolutely no unfunded liabilities.

NTEU National President Colleen Kelley has sent a letter to the Senate Homeland Security, and Governmental Affairs and Finance Committees, urging them to oppose efforts that lower the TSP's G Fund Rate to offset the costs of a Highway Bill. This bill will be on the floor Mid July.



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