



The Defense 14



The Fight Continues...Are You In?

September 2015—Volume 10

NTEU National Convention Elects New National President



During the week of August 10, 2015 in Hollywood Florida, NTEU National Leaders from across the country gathered together at the NTEU National Convention, and elected a new National President, and National Vice President. Chapter 14 is proud to welcome our new National Leaders, both of whom have served NTEU as dedicated leaders for many years. Departing National President had the honor on Thursday August 13, 2015 of swearing in our new National President Anthony Reardon, as well as our new National Executive Vice President Jim Bailey. Many of you met Tony at our Labor Recognition Celebration this year. While we are sad to see as distinguished a leader as Colleen Kelley make her exit from NTEU, the battles she has fought, and won, and the reputation she has established for NTEU as a Union to be reckoned with, will serve Tony and Jim well in the coming days. We wish Colleen nothing but the best in her well deserved, and hard earned retirement. We also offer our heart-felt congratulations to Tony and Jim on their well deserved win in this Election. NTEU has always had exceptional leadership, and these two are no exception to this rule. We expect great things from both of them, and look forward to seeing the victories for our members that they produce in the coming years!

Holiday Leave Made Available

Last year W&I increased the amount of leave offered over the holidays after having a chance to reassess their telephone requirements. This year NTEU National President Anthony Reardon contacted Debra Holland, and after a conversation was able to secure 3,000 additional leave days to be offered to employees across the country for November 27, the day after Thanksgiving.

At our request, instead of using the ad-hoc process to approve this, it will be offered first to employees who requested, but were denied requests for Nov 28, by EOD.

This Month's Highlights!

- National Convention
- 2013 Furlough Dispute
- Letter to the Editor
- Summer Recruitment
- Potential 2015 Furlough
- 2016 NTEU Contract



Letter to the Editor

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! Or sign up yourself and get both! Our strength is our members!



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

Congress Stalls Appropriations Bills Shutdown Possible



As of September 24, 2015 none of the annual appropriation bills that fund the federal government have been enacted.

It is expected that the Senate may introduce a CR that the chamber could vote on this week, which the House would then also need to pass, and then be signed into law by the President. It is also likely that the chambers may consider more than one version of a CR, meaning that potential final votes on a so-called clean CR that would fund agencies, but not alter existing policy for government programs would occur sometime next week.

During this trying time, NTEU has not been idle, we have been actively fighting on behalf of our members through the Halls of Congress on legislation to ensure that employees furloughed due to a lapse in appropriations receive retroactive pay. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) has introduced S. 2035, which would allow employees who are required to work during a shutdown to continue to be able to take leave, and would require agencies to pay employees as soon as possible after a shutdown without regard to regularly scheduled pay dates. We expect similar legislation soon in the House, and will notify you when this occurs.

We at NTEU will continue our

efforts to provide our members with the latest information regarding this possible government shutdown. We are making it clear to Congress that the American People want federal employees to be on the job, doing their work on behalf of the nation, and that federal employees should not be treated like pawns in partisan political battles.

For more information, or to find out what you can do, please LIKE us on [Facebook](#) and go to our [Website](#) and [CAPWIZ](#) during times such as shutdowns, these three tools are our main method of communication with our members.

2016 NTEU-IRS Contract Takes Effect Oct. 1, 2015



After months of tedious battle, the new NTEU-IRS 2016 contract will officially take effect Oct. 1, 2015. We would like to point out just a few of the many battles won by NTEU in this contract for our members.

In Article 18, Awards, we retained a solid performance award program despite significant cuts being made to our budget since 2013.

In Article 22, Work Schedules, we modified the language to take into account the new regulations governing eligibility for health insurance benefits for seasons who work less than 6 months per year.

In Article 55, Reasonable Accommodation, which is new, we agreed to language describing the interactive process from the time the employee first seeks a reasonable accommodation to the Employer's decision.

These agreements did not come easily, we fought hard to retain protections and benefits that the Agency has tried to eliminate for two years.

Letters To The Editor



We received a question from one of our members this month we want to cover for everyone.

"What should I do if I already have scheduled leave, but something unexpected happens in my family or to me that is different from the leave type I requested?"

The answer to this question can both be simple, or complex depending on the situation. First, as long as you have enough leave available to cover the situation you can simply call in per Article 32, Section 2 and request the leave be changed, as long as it does not impact another employee's choice.

Second, if you do not have the leave available, you might request LWOP, but bear in mind that LWOP is at management's discretion, and generally requires supporting medical documentation.