



# Civil Service Technical Guild - Local 375 DC 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

## Frequently Asked Questions on the Administratorship

### WHAT IS AN ADMINISTRATORSHIP?

An administratorship is a process established under Article IX of the International Constitution, under which the International President is authorized to appoint representatives to assume responsibility for the day-to-day affairs of an affiliate. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to, all matters related to representation of you in your employment and the management of the local's finances.

### WHY WAS LOCAL 375 PLACED UNDER ADMINISTRATORSHIP?

In the notice of the administratorship addressed to the local's former officers, International President Lee Saunders stated the following reasons for imposing the administratorship at this time:

"On August 12, 2016, the Judicial Panel forwarded to this office its preliminary decision in Case No. 16-64 – Local 375 Election Protest. I have reviewed the issues presented in that case, as well as the Judicial Panel's findings. I am of the opinion that the conduct that occurred is a continuation of a pattern demonstrated through numerous other Judicial Panel decisions, such that I find the existence of an emergency situation in New York City, Civil Service Technical Guild, Local 375, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. Specifically, I am of the opinion that the local is acting in violation of the International Constitution by its repeated engagement of conduct that violates several provisions of the Bill of Rights for Union Members, including their right to fair and democratic elections and their right to full participation in the decision making processes of the union. I am further of the opinion that such conduct cannot or will not be immediately remedied by the local."

### WHO IS RUNNING LOCAL 375?

President Saunders has appointed AFSCME Area Field Services Director, John English, to serve as Administrator of Local 375 and AFSCME District Council 37 Director of Technology and Membership Services, Chris Wilgenkamp, to serve as the Deputy Administrator.

### WHEN WILL THE ADMINISTRATORSHIP BE LIFTED?

The decision to terminate the administratorship rests solely with the International President and occurs after the concerns that led to the administratorship have been rectified.

### DOES LOCAL 375 STILL HAVE OFFICERS?

In his notice to the former Local 375 officers and committee chairs, President Saunders advised that they were immediately suspended from their position, and any other positions held by virtue of their office. Because the Executive Committee consisted of the former officers, that committee has been disbanded and all of its meetings cancelled.

All chapter officers remain in office and continue to perform their usual functions within the chapter, including holding chapter meetings.

The Local 375 Delegate Body also remains as a functioning part of the local's structure. The next regularly scheduled Delegate Body meeting is set for September 21, 2016.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MY RIGHTS AS A MEMBER?

Your rights as a member remain unchanged. As specified in the AFSCME "Bill of Rights for Union Members," your rights include but are not limited to:

- Members shall suffer no impairment of freedom of speech concerning the operations of this union.
- Members shall have the right to fair and democratic elections at all levels of the union.
- Members shall have the right to a full and clear accounting of all union funds at all levels.
- Members shall have the right to full participation, through discussion and vote, in the decision making processes of the union, and to pertinent information needed for the exercise of this right.

### HOW DO I GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATORSHIP?

The success of this administratorship will rest in part on our ability to effectively communicate with each other. You will hear from the Administrator and Deputy Administrator regularly on the status of the administratorship, via communication mailed to your homes and posted on the official Local 375 website, as well as at Delegate Body meetings. You may now sign up for official Local 375 emails and text messages by going to the Local 375 website at: <http://civilservicetechnicalguild.org>. In the top right corner, you will see a button where you can click to sign up.

### IS THERE A MEETING I CAN ATTEND?

Individual chapter meetings continue as scheduled. The administrators and/or their representatives will attempt to attend as many as possible in the coming months. Contact your chapter president for dates and times of upcoming meetings. The next regularly scheduled Delegate Body meeting is set for September 21, 2016. In addition, we are planning a general membership meeting for later in the fall.

### HOW DO I GET IN TOUCH WITH THE UNION ABOUT A GRIEVANCE?

If a grievance arises at work you should contact your chapter president. (You can find a list of all chapter presidents and chapter contact information on the Local 375 website.) If you need additional assistance, you should call the local at (212) 815-1375, and you'll be assigned to a grievance representative.

### HOW CAN I SHARE MY IDEAS AND CONCERNS FOR IMPROVING LOCAL 375?

An online member survey has been set up where you can weigh in with your ideas for making Local 375 a more democratic and transparent union with greater member engagement. You can take that survey by going to the Local 375 website, where you will find a link to it.