

THE SOLIDARITY SOURCE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF AFGE TSA COUNCIL 100



HERE TO FIGHT!

AFGE TSA Council 100 is not going to stop fighting until all TSO's are given better pay, benefits and fair treatment in the workplace. We can't do any of this without YOU!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 01 CBA STATUS
- 02 UNIFORM COMMITTEE UPDATE
- 03 LEGISLATIVE/POLITICAL CORNER
- 04 C100 EXECUTIVE BOARD SPOTLIGHT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HYDRICK THOMAS

COUNCIL 100 PRESIDENT



I hope you and your loved ones have been safe and secure during these most tumultuous and uncertain times. Our Union has undergone many attacks over the last few years, particularly as it pertains to TSA employee rights, and now we find ourselves in a new, unprecedented battle against a ravaging and deadly virus. I sincerely ask you, regardless of your personal discomfort, please wear your personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks, goggles, face shields, use hand sanitization, and follow other precautions as suggested.

Consequently, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, six employees have passed away and nearly 1,000 employees have contracted the virus to date. Right now, we need to watch out for one another, have each other's back, and ensure we are protecting ourselves in order to keep one another safe. I am extremely proud of the work and commitment each TSA employee has exhibited throughout this pandemic, despite the implications of danger to themselves and their families. AFGE TSA Council 100 is nearly 20,000 members strong, growing, and continuing to fight for you!

In Solidarity,
Hydrick Thomas

Official Council 100 Black Lives Matter Statement

"... In order to heal and move forward, we must take an introspective look at our societal systems; then we must open our minds to understanding the plights of our brothers and sisters who are different than we are; and finally, we must question the existence of institutional and systemic racism—wherever it exists... Council 100 supports both the Black Lives Matter movement and our law enforcement officers. We wholeheartedly and unequivocally condemn and detest rioting, violence, or any other form of destruction—just as much as we condemn and detest the continued mistreatment of our Black brothers and sisters..."

[To Read More CLICK HERE](#) or [Reach Out To Your RVP](#)

LEGISLATIVE/POLITICAL CORNER

H.R. 1140: Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act

Passed House on March 5, 2020 (230-171)
Awaiting Senate action

S.944: Strengthen American Transportation Security Act of 2019

29 co-sponsors

H.R. 1171: FASTER Act

79 co-sponsors

S.472: FASTER Act

2 co-sponsors

H.R. 372: Honoring our Fallen TSA Officers Act

134 co-sponsors

H.R. 6656: Coronavirus Workers' Compensation For TSA Employees Act

20 co-sponsors

H.R. 2: INVEST in America Act

129 co-sponsors

Make the call today, it's this easy!!

"Hello my name is, {NAME HERE}! I work for the Transportation Security Administration at {AIRPORT NAME}! I am calling to ask Senator {SENATOR'S NAME HERE} to support, co-sign and vote YES on Senate Bill 944, The Strengthening American Transportation Security Act of 2019 TODAY!! Thank you!"

**Call Your
Member of Congress
202.224.3121**

You Can:

- Call from your personal phone
- Call during lunch
- Discuss legislative issues
- Call only from a non-work area

You Cannot:

- Call on duty time
- Call using a government phone or mobile device



The men and women working in our nation's airports take pride in providing safety and security to our traveling public. They have worked without pay through the government shutdown back in 2019, and now we have been working without adequate protection during the COVID-19 pandemic. We do not have the most basic pay, rights, and workplace protections that other federal employees get to enjoy, that is what makes us getting Title 5 so important!

*Thanks,
Joseph Lowry
AFGE TSA Local 1127
Legislative/Political Coordinator*



REPRESENTATIVE BENNIE THOMPSON
D - MISSISSIPPI 2ND DISTRICT
SPONSOR OF H.R. 1140, RIGHTS FOR TSO'S ACT

TSA ADMINISTRATOR CONFIRMS WORKERS COMPENSATION PRESUMPTION

On May 26th the AFGE National President, Dr. Everett Kelly, wrote to TSA Administrator David Pekoske asking for TSO's to be recognized as "high-risk" for the purpose of COVID-19-related worker's compensation benefits. On June 25th AFGE National received correspondence back and AFGE is proud to announce that Administrator Pekoske has granted that request!

"In April 2020, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) identified the occupational series codes satisfying the established criteria and uploaded this information into DOL-OWCP's compensation database to support the adjudication of related injury claims. TSA identified the 1802 job series as high-risk to ensure our TSO workforce is included in this category."

Please note individuals are still responsible for providing medical documentation to support a claim that they were infected with COVID-19 at the workplace, and DOL will still make the final determination on the claim.

[To read the complete letter CLICK HERE](#) or reach out to your C100 RVP!



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UNION PLUS

AFGE-TSA COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Many officers have asked where things stand with the 2016 CBA and we thought it might be good to attempt to answer some of those inquiries! In the Fall of 2019 Council 100 and TSA Management were able to come to an agreement on the majority of the topics in the new CBA. It was then scheduled for ratification, or voting, to accept the new CBA by the Bargaining Unit Employees (BUE's) of TSA. However, due to the onset of COVID-19 that process was put on a complete hold. As of current, TSA Administrator Pekoske has placed an extension on the 2016 CBA until further notice. As new updates are made available we will be releasing that information here and on our social media!

If you should have any questions or suggestions regarding the CBA please contact your Local President or C100 Regional Vice President for assistance!

C100 UNIFORM COMMITTEE



The Uniform Committee is made of 6 TSO's one from each of the 7 regions with one region serving as an alternate member. The Committee is led by Co-Chairs: TSA LAX Spokes DAFSD Geoff Shearer and C100 Region 7 Vice President Joe Shuker.

AFGE members include Region 1: Paul Feragne, Region 2: Simone Christie, Region 4: Michael Bolton, Region 6: Alicia Canham and Region 7: Sherry Markham.

Here are some of the items the Uniform Committee made possible:

V-Neck Moisture Wicking Tee	Web Tactical Belt
Long Sleeve Moisture Wicking Tee	Full-Grain Leather Garrison Belt
Ankle Socks	Screw-on Name Plates
Compression Socks	Turtleneck Dickie
Shoe Inserts	Shirt Garters
Warm Weather Socks	Sports Bra
Cargo Shorts	Hidden Agenda Jacket
New Short Skirts	Windbreaker Jacket
Arm and Leg Sleeves	3-in-1 Jacket

The Uniform Committee was responsible for the redesign of the Maternity Pant and the Cargo Pants. The old design of Cargo Pants were designed for Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) which is why they come with a double seat and double knee. The newly redesigned RipStop Cargo Pants were designed for the TSA officer and their particular needs. The pants are light weight and have a new pocket design to include a radio pocket. Soon (release date to be determined) the new Dri Fit Polos will be made available for baggage officers to order!

The Uniform Committee is always looking for new uniform ideas. If you have any ideas for new items or a redesign of the current items please email those ideas to your C100 Regional Vice President!

AFGE FIGHT FOR TITLE 5 AND GENERAL SCHEDULE (GS) PAY SCALE

AFGE has been fighting for Title 5 Rights and the General Schedule (GS) pay scale from the very beginning! We have never been in a more perfect political climate than now to make this long battle a reality!

H.R. 1140 (Rights for Transportation Security Officers Act) was sponsored by Representative Bennie Thompson, Democrat from Mississippi's 2nd District, on February 11, 2019. Since its introduction AFGE has successfully gained 242 co-sponsors (232D, 10R) and it has passed the House of Representatives with a vote of 230 yays and 171 nays!

The only way TSA will ever gain Title 5 Rights is with the power of all officers working together! C100 is calling on all Local Executive Boards, Union Representatives/Stewards, Women's and Fair Practices Coordinators, Y.O.U.N.G. Coordinators, Legislative/Political Coordinators, and all members to work together to build our union power!

There is great power in numbers. If AFGE is able to grow the TSA membership to 51%, a majority voice, we would finally have the influence needed to persuade the U.S. President, Congress and the TSA Administration that TSA officers deserve to be treated better by granting us these basic rights that are afforded every other agency in DHS!

Local Executive Boards, please contact your C100 RVP and work together to create a strategic plan on how you will grow your Local to a minimum 51% majority membership within your Bargaining Unit!



AFGE TSA MEMBERSHIP

42.65%

BIG ENOUGH TO WIN!

YOU'RE INVITED!

C100 National Call

EVERY THURSDAY AT 1700 EST

Contact Your Local Executive Board or C100 RVP for more information!

C100 SPOTLIGHT



Hydrick Thomas
 Council President
 AFGE TSA Council 100

From 1982 - 2000 I was employed by a private law enforcement company in Brooklyn NY. During this time I also was a Union Representative and member of SEIU 32BJ. In 2002, I applied for TSA as a Screener. With prior Union knowledge I would challenge the agency for unfair labor practices and violations of employees rights.

In December 2007 I was introduced to AFGE and I was offered a position as the Local President of L2222 which covers New York and New Jersey. AFGE was needing the votes of JFK BUE's to win the rights as the exclusive union for TSA Employees. I assisted in this campaign by recruiting 649 BUE's in 4 months to give AFGE the win. I have remained the Local President for L2222 ever since.

Over my approximate 37 year career with the Union I have served as a Steward, Secretary/Treasurer and President. This isn't a hobby, it's my life and love to fight for people who can't defend themselves against their employer.

I served as a U.S. Marine from 1977-1981. I have a beautiful wife and we have 4 four daughters and twin sons, we also have three grandchildren.

C100 Communications Committee

This publication was brought to you by the C100 Communications Committee. If you would be interested in joining this team of skilled officers in creating more content like this one, our social media platforms, the C100 website and numerous others communication avenues please send your letter of interest to c100communication@gmail.com

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 C100 Region 6 RVP

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 Regional Vice President (NH) - L2617

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