

## **Statement of Adoption – Revised Bylaws**

The following document shall constitute the duly adopted and governing Bylaws of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 2544.

These Bylaws were approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a properly noticed meeting held on February 11, 2026, in accordance with Article X of these Bylaws and Article XIX, Section 3(c) of the AFGE National Constitution.

Upon approval by the membership and subsequent approval by the National Executive Council as required by the AFGE National Constitution, these Bylaws shall supersede and replace all prior bylaws of AFGE Local 2544, including the bylaws approved September 3, 2014.

These Bylaws shall remain in full force and effect until amended in accordance with the procedures contained herein and the AFGE National Constitution.

# **AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

## **LOCAL 2544 – BYLAWS**

**(2026 Proposed Revision)**

### **ARTICLE I – NAME AND JURISDICTION**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be known as the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 2544.

**Section 2.** The jurisdiction of this Local shall be as defined in its charter issued by AFGE.

## **ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1. Active Membership.** Active membership shall consist of all persons employed within the Local's jurisdiction who are eligible under Article III of the AFGE National Constitution and who are not prohibited by law from being members of a labor organization.

**Section 2. Retired Membership.** Retired membership shall consist of those persons who, at the time of their retirement from federal service, were active members of Local 2544 and who elect to remain members in good standing.

**Section 3. Voting Rights.** Only members of the Local in good standing shall be allowed to vote. Retired members shall not vote on matters relating to the collective bargaining agreement, working conditions, grievances, representation matters, or any issue that directly affects active bargaining unit employees.

## **ARTICLE III – MEETINGS**

**Section 1. Regular Meetings.** Regular meetings of the Local shall be held on the second Wednesday of every even month. The time, location, and date shall be announced by the President and posted on the Local's website and/or bulletin boards at all stations at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting date.

**Section 2. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called by:

1. The President and/or Executive Vice President
2. Two-thirds vote of the Executive Board; or
3. Written petition of at least ten percent (10%) of the membership.

Five (5) days' notice of the specific purpose of the meeting must be given to the membership. No business other than that specified in the notice shall be discussed.

**Section 3. Quorum.** A quorum of this Local shall consist of not less than the number of members of the Executive Board plus one (1). A quorum of any committee shall consist of a majority of the members thereof.

**Section 4. Parliamentary Authority.** The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Local when not inconsistent with the provisions of the AFGE National Constitution or these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Officers.** The officers of this Local (which comprise the Executive Board) shall be:

- President
- Executive Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- First Vice President
- Second Vice President
- Third Vice President

**Section 2. Terms of Office.** Officers shall serve three-year terms.

**Section 3. Eligibility.** Candidates shall meet all requirements as stipulated in the AFGE National Constitution and Appendix A. Only active members in good standing shall be eligible to be candidates for or serve in any elected office.

**Section 4. Retired Members.** Retired members shall not be eligible to be candidates for or serve in any elected/appointed office of this Local.

**Section 5. Active Employment Requirement (Mandatory Resignation).**

A. All elected officers must be actively employed within the bargaining unit represented by AFGE Local 2544 throughout their entire term of office.

B. Any officer who retires from the United States Border Patrol, separates from federal service, transfers outside the Local's jurisdiction, or otherwise ceases to be an active employee within the bargaining unit during their term of office the office shall, upon verification of such change in status, be deemed to have vacated the office. The Executive Board shall formally declare vacancy at the next practical Executive Board meeting.

C. The vacancy shall be filled in accordance with Article V (Vacancies).

**Section 6. Officer Obligation.** All officers shall be administered the "Officer's Obligation" contained in the AFGE National Constitution upon their installation in office.

## **ARTICLE V – VACANCIES**

**Section 1. Vacancy Declaration.** If an officer retires, resigns, separates from federal service, transfers outside the Local's jurisdiction, or ceases to be an active employee within the bargaining unit, the office shall be declared vacant immediately.

**Section 2. Succession.** In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice President shall fill the unexpired term. If the Executive Vice President is unable or unwilling to serve, the First, Second, and then Third Vice President, in order, shall fill the vacancy.

**Section 3. Special Election.** If the Executive Board is unable to fill the vacancy through succession, the Executive Board shall call a special election consistent with Appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution.

## **ARTICLE VI – PROHIBITION ON RETIRED MEMBER CONTRACTS**

**Section 1. Post-Retirement Compensation Prohibited.** No elected officer or retired member, including any former officer of this Local, shall receive compensation from the Local after retirement from federal service. No retired member may enter into any compensated agreement with the Local, including but not limited to consulting agreements, contracts, stipends, salary arrangements, bookkeeping services, administrative services, or any paid advisory role.

**Section 2. Contracting Limitation.** Any bookkeeping, administrative, or professional services required by the Local shall be performed only by active members (currently employed by Border Patrol) or by non-member third parties who are not retired members of Local 2544.

## **ARTICLE VII – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Section 1. Election Cycle.** Nominations for Executive Board officers shall be held in October of every third year, with elections (if necessary) held in November of the election year. Installation of officers shall take place at the December meeting of each election year.

**Section 2. Notice of Elections.**

A. Notification of contested elections shall be posted on the Local's website no later than September 1st of each election year.

B. The Local shall employ reasonable efforts to inform members at station musters of any upcoming nominations and elections.

C. In addition to Local notice requirements, all notices required by Appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution shall be followed, including mailing requirements and minimum notice periods.

**Section 3. Election Committee.**

A. An Election Committee shall be elected by majority vote of the Local members present and voting at a meeting prior to the start of the nomination procedure.

B. The election committee shall conduct the election in accordance with appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution.

C. No member of the Election Committee may be a candidate for any office in that election.

D. The Election Committee shall ensure the election is conducted by secret ballot and in accordance with Appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution.

**Section 4. Voting Eligibility.** Voting eligibility shall be as provided in Article II

**Section 5. Balloting Method.**

A. Elections shall be conducted either by:

1. Mail ballot mailed to each eligible member's last known address; or
2. In-person balloting completed by eligible members at polling places set up at each of the stations within the Tucson Sector.

B. The Election Committee shall determine the method to be used.

C. If in-person polling is used, the Election Committee may elect to use stewards as polling place monitors to facilitate polling places at each station.

**Section 6. Assistance.** The National Border Patrol Council may be asked to provide any additional election assistance that may be needed.

**Section 7. Majority Vote.** Executive Board members shall be elected if they receive a majority of the member votes submitted by a deadline set by Appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution.

**Section 8. Run-Off Elections.** If there is more than one candidate for a particular office and no candidate receives a majority of the votes, then the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall have a run-off election. The candidate receiving a majority of the votes submitted by a deadline set by the Election Committee shall be declared the winner.

**Section 9. Candidate Statements.** Candidates may provide a one-page attachment listing qualifications for the position.

**Section 10. Prohibition on Use of Union Funds.** No monies received by way of dues, assessment, or similar levy shall be contributed or applied to promote the candidacy of any person in a Local election.

**Section 11. Membership List for Candidates.** The Election Committee shall provide a list of members to any candidate for election upon written request, consistent with AFGE election rules.

**Section 12. Records.** The Election Committee shall maintain all election records as required under Appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution.

## **ARTICLE VIII – DUES**

**Section 1. Active Member Dues.** Active member dues shall be established in accordance with AFGE Article XIX and Article XXIV and shall include sufficient funds to pay:

- AFGE per capita tax
- NBPC per capita tax
- Any required council dues
- Local operating expenses

**Section 2. Retired Member Dues.** Retired member dues shall be paid annually no later than January 31 for the current calendar year. Failure to remit payment shall result in loss of good standing in accordance with the AFGE National Constitution. The annual dues for retired members shall consist of:

1. The full annual AFGE per capita tax, including any increases adopted by AFGE;
2. The full annual NBPC per capita tax, including any increases adopted by NBPC; and
3. Any Local administrative fees.

**Section 3. Automatic Increase.** Any increase in AFGE or NBPC per capita tax shall automatically be reflected in retired member dues without further amendment to these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE IX – FINANCIAL SAFEGUARDS**

**Section 1. Spending Approval.** Expenditures of the Executive Board in excess of \$500.00 per month not previously authorized in the approved budget must have prior approval of the Local's members.

**Section 2. Financial Reporting.** The Treasurer shall present a financial report at each regular meeting.

**Section 3. Annual Audit.** An annual audit shall be conducted and certification submitted to AFGE as required.

## **ARTICLE X – SUPREMACY**

In the event of any conflict between these bylaws and the AFGE National Constitution or the NBPC National Constitution, the provisions of the higher governing document shall control.

