

CBTU Founders:

Nelson "Jack" Edwards (UAW)
Charles A. Hayes (UFCW)
Cleveland Robinson (District 65 UAW)
William "Bill" Lucy (AFSCME)
William Simons (AFT)

COALITION OF BLACK TRADE UNIONISTS

P.O. Box 66268 Washington, DC 20035-6268 Tel: (202) 778-3318 Fax: (202) 419-1486 Web site: www.cbtu.org

REV. TERRENCE L. MELVIN

President AFSCME

ANTHONY HARMON

Exec. Vice President

AFT

CLAYOLA BROWN

First Vice President
Workers United/SEIU

LEW MOYE

Second Vice President UAW

YOLANDA MCCLEAN

Third Vice President CUPE

FAITH MORRIS

Treasurer AFSCME

WAYNE BLANCHARD

Recording Secretary

CHERIKA CARTER

Corresponding Secretary
UFCW

TRUSTEES

CLAUDE CUMMINGS JR., CWA
ELIZABETH "LIZ" POWELL, APWU
GEORGE GRESHAM, SEIU
KEN RIGMAIDEN, IUPAT
KENNETH RILEY, ILA
LORRETTA JOHNSON, AFT
FRED REDMOND, USW
SHANNA PEEKS, UMWA

WILLIAM "BILL" LUCY

President Emeritus

AFSCME

WILLIE L. BAKER JR.

Exec. Vice President Emeritus UFCW

GWEND JOHNSON

Treasurer Emeritus

CWA

President of Union Busting CBTU condemns Trumps' attacks on union contracts

On Friday, March 28, the Trump administration filed suit against AFGE, the union representing federal workers, looking to decertify contracts as they "interfere" with the White Houses' agenda. As a reminder this is an administration that is trapped in court over numerous illegal actions, activities, and executive orders. This is a White House that blatantly ignores security protocols putting our troops in danger but has the audacity to say working people are an obstruction to their agenda.

As a reminder, union contracts are negotiated between the employer and the workers. This means all contents of the contract have been agreed upon by the government themselves prior to ratification. This means there is no part of a contract that inhibits government operations, unless said operations go against government policy and protocol. To claim contracts obstruct government operations is part and parcel to saying the government itself is blocking the agenda of the administration. This has nothing to do with unions or their contracts, it is all about removing checks and balances.

The government is trying to create an oligarchy run by the rich and elite and devoid of any democratic process. Removing the voice of working people, invalidating contracts for personal gain, and using the presidency as a way to advance authoritarianism are all the actions and objectives of this current administration. Unions are one of the few bastions left for the working class to ensure their institutions work for them and not against them. Unions are made by the people and for the people, and contracts memorialize the fruits of their labor.

We cannot continue to operate under such a destructive paradigm. This government has a clear agenda to strip all regulations and protections for citizens for the purposes of consolidating wealth and hoarding power. There are laws in place to prevent such endeavors, the question is do we have the right electeds to fight back? Do we have the mettle as working people to resist these attempts? Do we, as the people, have the backbone to be immovable force in the face of what seems like an unstoppable force?

CBTU condemns this administration and its actions. CBTU stands with all unions and specifically AFGE in the face of this disgusting union busting. CBTU calls on our elected officials to fight back and stand up for the constituents they represent and not be beholden to party or party donors. We the people need our government to work for us, not against us.

(manes (mat) counce)