# AFGE Local 2199 Newsletter 5/1/24

## **Inside this Issue**

Social Workers Wins ..All employees must be properly compensated for their work..Local 2199 shirts available at union office 12.00 each



# **Upcoming Events**

AFGE Local will be announcing case load, wins and losses in future issues. Community outreach event end of month. See facebook page for details.

# **Membership Meeting**

Membership meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. We welcome all to attend. The link to attend the meetings are on the website, AFGELocal 2199.org, and once you book the meeting then the link will be sent to you via email.

#### **Lunch & Learn**

New Year, new dates for leadership to be swinging by all CBOCS to check in and see how things are going and for questions and info sessions.





# 29th Anniversary of Oklahoma City Bombing Is Chilling Reminder of Real Danger of Hateful Anti-Government Rhetoric

April 19, 2024 was the 29th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing, where an anti-government extremist detonated a bomb in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building downtown Oklahoma City, killing 168 people including children, and injuring 680 others. A third of the building collapsed, and 300 nearby buildings were either damaged or destroyed.

Thirty-five AFGE members who worked in the Department of Housing and Urban Development and 16 in the Social Security offices died that day.

AFGE honors the memory of the union family we so needlessly and suddenly lost. We mourn alongside the families who continue to grieve to this day, and we renew our pledge to protect the health and safety needs of every federal and D.C. government employee.

Government agencies and employees have long been targets of violence. In March 1998, for example, a man with anti-government views attempted to take over a Veterans Affairs office in Waco, Texas. In February 2010, a man who railed against the IRS flew his airplane into an IRS office building in Austin, Texas, killing himself and one IRS employee. In 1996, members of an anti-government group were arrested for plotting to blow up the FBI's national fingerprint records center in West Virginia where 1,000 people worked. Members of another anti-government group were convicted of surveilling government buildings as potential targets.

Decades of heated, overblown anti-government rhetoric led to these tragedies. When politicians refer to civil servants as "thieves," "sadists," "swamp creatures," "the deep state" and threaten to start slitting government workers' throats, it dehumanizes everyday workers and can encourage disturbed individuals to commit violence.

With every new instance of hateful rhetoric against our federal government and its workforce, our elected officials and politicians not only tell federal employees that they are not appreciated, but that it's okay for extremists to attack them, verbally or physically.

As we're remembering the tragedy that happened in Oklahoma City 29 years ago, we need to do more than just honoring the memory of those we lost. We need to tone down our rhetoric and put measures in place to prevent the next tragedy.



WELCOME TO AFGE

**LOCAL 2199 SOCIAL** 

**WORKERS OF** 

VA SALT LAKE CITY

# Pet of the Month



#### **NANI**

Dog

**Location Salt Lake City** 

Looks like Shepherd / Black Labrador Retriever / Mixed

Estimated Birth Date December 12, 2021

Size Large

Color Black with White

#### Sex Female

Meet Nani, the sunshine-loving, squirrel-chasing sweetheart! This adorable pup is on a mission to find every squirrel in the neighborhood, often spending hours in the backyard playing a game of "squirrel patrol." While fetch is fun, those furry critters can be quite the distraction for this squirrel enthusiast! She's a smart cookie who knows the basics like sit, paw, and stay, though sometimes her squirrel obsession gets the best of her focus. But don't let her squirrel antics fool you - Nani is a bundle of affection and energy, always ready to shower you with bounces and wiggles galore. With a love for walks and a keen sense for treats (just mention the word and watch her zoom to her crate), Nani is ready to bring endless joy and laughter into your home!

https://bestfriends.org/adopt/adopt-our-sanctuary/20067728/nani

# WE BELEVE IN MAKING DIFFERENCE

AFGE Local 2199 is looking for 20 volunteers on 5/25 and 26. Local 2199 wants to help out a blind elderly lady in repainting her house and with yard work. She has all the supplies and her husband was going to do it till he passed away. Due to this unfortunate event the work never got completed. AFGE local 2199 will be supplying lunch and drinks. If you would like to assist please contact Robert Johnson at ext 1086 for more details or stop by the union office for more details.



## **AFGE Wins and Losses**

VBA vs Local 2199 & Employee in pre arbitration. Employee wins and gets paid back for 2 week suspension, SF 50 cleaned.

VBA vs Local 2199 & Employee in EEO. Employee wins and receives extra training,

PiP removed, Supervisor changed, and promotion from 7 to 9 granted.

**CWS Still being worked on** 





### Your partnership with AFGE doesn't have to end when you retire.

AFGE Retirees are front and center in our efforts to honor and defend government employees. That means advocating for a productive, healthy, and secure retirement as well as good jobs, pay, and benefits for those who are still working.

- Stay connected with friends through social activities and volunteer opportunities
- Keep informed about issues affecting retired and active government employees
- Take action to protect retirement security, jobs, and government employee pay
- Save money on a host of benefits Retirees receive all AFGE discounts and benefits
- Share your skills with the next generation of union leaders and activists



## **Transparency and Availability**

Union officers are to provide more transparency and availability. What does this mean for the members? This means that if you need a rep to assist you then you will get one quickly. If you want to know what is happening in the local chapter, then we will have a monthly briefing to inform you of upcoming events. Our goal is to keep everyone informed of local events and events happening on the national level that will affect the VA and the employees.

# AFGE LOCAL 2199 Union

President — Robert Johnson
Treasurer/Secretary- Lisa-Marie Manning
Executive Vice President - Jeff VanCuren
VHA Vice President - Lisa-Marie Manning
VBA Vice President - Vacant
Sergeant At Arms - Caitlinn Tanaka
Chief Steward - Robert Malone
Womens Fair Practice - Michelle Weeks
YOUNG Cord. - Vacant
PRIDE Coordinator-JoJo Begay
B.L.A.C.K.- Coordinator-Kendra Childs
APOWER Coordinator-Caitlinn Tanaka
HISCO Coordinator- VACANT

AFGE Local 2199 Contact Info: 801-582-1565 ext 1086 https://www.afge.org Facebook - Local 2199

