## **U.S. Department of Labor**

Office of Labor-Management Standards Division of Enforcement Washington, DC 20210 (202) 693-0143 Fax: (202) 693-1343



November 21, 2016



This Statement of Reasons is provided in response to the complaint you filed with the Department of Labor on June 22, 2016, alleging that violations of Title IV of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA) occurred in connection with the June 18, 2016 election of union officers of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), Local 261.

The Department conducted an investigation of your allegations. As a result of the investigation, the Department has concluded that no violation occurred that may have affected the outcome of the election. The following is an explanation of this conclusion.

You alleged that the union acted improperly in disqualifying your candidacy. The union ruled that you failed to meet the two-year good standing requirement for candidacy when you did not pay November 2015 dues until January 5, 2016. You state that heretofore the union has not considered this to be an untimely payment that would defeat good standing. You alleged that the union applied a different standard to a different candidate in 2014. Section 401(e) of the LMRDA provides that every member in good standing shall be eligible to be a subject to reasonable qualifications uniformly imposed.

The investigation revealed that previously members had until the first day of the third month following the payment due date to pay dues and maintain good standing. However, this practice was changed in July 2014 by LIUNA's general president, who directed the local to suspend all members who do not pay dues by the last day of the second month. You were suspended from membership on January 1 after you had not paid dues due on November. You were reinstated on January 5 when you paid dues. The union applied its current dues delinquency/good standing policy. There was no violation.

For the reasons set forth above, there is insufficient evidence that any violation may have occurred that affected the outcome of the election. Accordingly, the office has closed the file on this matter.

## Sincerely,

Sharon Hanley Chief, Division of Enforcement

cc: Terry O'Sullivan, President LIUNA 905 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20006

> Jesus Villalobos, President LIUNA 261 3271 18th Street San Francisco, CA 94110

Beverly Dankowitz, Associate Solicitor for Civil Rights and Labor-Management