

U.S. Department of Labor  
Cleveland District Office

Employment Standards Administration  
Office of Labor-Management Standards  
Cleveland District Office  
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Cleveland, Ohio 44199

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SEP 26 2005

Linda Hale, President  
Communications Workers, AFL-CIO  
LU 84-708  
30 East Cook Road  
Mansfield, Ohio 44907

Re: 2

Dear Ms. Hale:

This office has recently completed an audit of CWA Local Union 84-719 under the Compliance Audit Program (CAP) to determine your organization's compliance with the provisions of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, as Amended (LMRDA). As discussed during the exit interview with you on September 19, 2005, the following problems were disclosed during the CAP. The matters listed below are not an exhaustive list of all possible problem areas since the audit conducted was limited in scope.

Title II of the LMRDA establishes certain reporting and record keeping requirements. Section 206 requires, among other things, that adequate records be maintained for at least five years by which each receipt and disbursement of funds, as well as all account balances can be verified, explained, and clarified. As a general rule, all records used or received in the course of union business must be retained. Local 84-719 failed to maintain proper backup documentation for a \$25.00 donation made payable to United Way in May 2004. You mentioned that you recall receiving telephone call or thank you card from United Way confirming receipt of the Local's donation but could not provide any physical verification to support the disbursement. It was suggested for future disbursements, to request a written confirmation or simply attach the thank you card to the voucher.

The CAP disclosed a violation of LMRDA section 201(b), because the Labor Organization Annual Report (Form LM-3) filed by Local 84-719 for fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 failed to meet the standards of acceptability. Item 12 was incorrectly answered "No." Local 84-719 had a COPE (political fund) fund during the audit period. As discussed with you during the exit interview, the COPE fund is required to be disclosed in item 12 even though only 4 members participate and no activity took place during the audit period. This office received an amended LM-3 report for 2004 with the above deficient item corrected. Therefore, no additional enforcement action will be taken regarding these violations.

I want to extend my personal appreciation for your and your entire staff's cooperation and courtesy during this compliance audit. If we can be of any assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

FCCJ