A Message from NWSEO President

(December 30, 2018) We are all very unhappy about the government shutdown. I can't for second tell you all of the implications of the shutdown and the impact on each individual will be very different. However we collectively as in our union are also impacted by the shutdown and I thought I would give you an update.

First of all financially, we of course are not collecting dues during this period. There is no direct collection from NFC. As for those of you on credit cards, if we are still shutdown on the 15th when those charges go through, we will suspend the charges until people are getting paid again. There is a question as to whether NFC will go back and collect back dues when we get paid again or whether the union will have to eat the loss. It seems sometimes in the past they collected and sometimes they didn't. Our Treasurer *David Solano* has been doing a great job questioning and planning but the response he has gotten was NFC has no plan. Dave also has been keeping money in cash in case the shutdown happened so we should be fine paying our bills at least through February. If this goes into March or April we have CDs we can cash in. Of course if this goes until March or April we will all have bigger problems than that.

As for representation duties, there is no official time, all negotiations including LOTs should be canceled. Management can make no changes in working conditions. However, we also cannot file any grievances. At least on the national level there is no one even to file them with. While we are working under the assumption all time limits are suspended, if you are planning a grievance I would send an email asking the manager the suspend time limits till after the shutdown.

I know the shutdown sucks for all of us, I just thought you would be interested in knowing on how we prepared our union for this situation.

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