



State of Our Union

BY DAMON K. JONES

Letter to current COBA President Alonzo West questioning his inability to manage the internal operations of COBA and confirm that COBA member interest have not been adequately addressed

Latter mailed via UPS , July 13,2010

Alonzo West
President
COBA
28 Claremont Ave.
Thornwood, NY 10594

Dear: President Alonzo West

Based on the recent media coverage of the criminal allegations against our Second Vice President, the allocation and use of union time by our COBA executive branch has been brought into question.

As you are well aware, it is the contractual responsibility of the COBA President to insure that union release time is utilized to address COBA member issues and not used to conduct personal business.

In an effort to ensure the integrity of the negotiated COBA union release time clause, as a dues paying member, I am requesting from you a breakdown of the last 18 months of allocated union release time...The break down should consist of; specific dates, names of individuals receiving union release time, nature of union business for each day, and location/locations where business was conducted. Failure to prove that you have provided strict accounting of union release time and related business will demonstrate your inability to manage the internal operations of COBA and confirm that COBA member concerns have not been adequately addressed.

Additionally, I also have some concerns related to all COBA litigation, including but not limited to grievances, PERB hearings and other court cases.

As a result, I am also requesting a list of all COBA litigation that has occurred over the past 3 years and the outcomes. Specifically, I am requesting a breakdown that reflects every grievance that was slated for arbitration, nature of grievance and outcome; won, lost, withdrawn, tabled or settled and copies of any awards/settlements. This same standard shall apply to all informal grievance meetings, all PERB litigation and any other court cases. Like many other COBA members I am concerned that there are negative decisions and settlements which have occurred during the aforementioned period that you have purposely withheld from the membership.

Finally, I am requesting clarification on the identity of the so-called COBA spokesperson Mr. Skelly. When did the executive board vote to have a spokesperson? What is his salary? And why did you decide that the President of COBA could not adequately serve as the spokesperson for the largest law enforcement agency in Westchester County?

Thank you for your time in this matter

Damon K. Jones

D.K. Jones #984

cc: Board of Directors

Delegates

Membership