

NTEU TSA UPDATE

News and Information for TSA Employees from NTEU

April 14, 2009

Union Growth

NTEU Charters New Chapter at John Wayne Airport in California

TSA employees at one of southern California's busiest airports joined thousands of others nationwide benefiting from strong workplace representation when NTEU chartered its ninth chapter. The newest chapter is at John Wayne Airport in Irvine, Calif.

As part of its continuing TSA organizing campaign, **Chapter 317 (TSA John Wayne Airport)** joins a larger NTEU network of TSA chapters at airports in Atlanta, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Miami, Philadelphia, Dallas and El Paso, Texas, as well as in New York.

NTEU represents thousands of TSOs across the country and is actively organizing at several other airports nationwide.

"NTEU will give dedicated and hardworking TSOs a meaningful and powerful voice in their day-to-day work lives," NTEU President Colleen M. Kelley said.



All TSA chapters operate with local staff attorneys and labor relations experts to represent TSOs on critical workplace issues, such as promotions, disciplinary actions, shift bidding and scheduling, overtime, performance appraisals and leave issues, as well as disability accommodations and other EEO issues.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Making a Difference

NTEU Succeeds in Fight for Fair Pay at CBP

NTEU has played a critical role in addressing and protecting fair pay for federal employees for decades. This is particularly true for your airport colleagues at **U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)**, who we have represented for more than 30 years. Our highly successful efforts in the media, on Capitol Hill and in the courts are why, in 2006, CBP Officers (CBPOs) elected us as their exclusive workplace representative by more than a two-to-one margin.

Here is just one example of NTEU's success on behalf of your colleagues at CBP:

From 2005-07, the previous administration tried to implement regressive workplace regulations that would have forced Department of Homeland Security (DHS) employees, including CBPOs, off the GS scale and onto a PASS-like system. When the other unions at DHS chose NTEU to lead the fight against the regulations, NTEU filed a lawsuit on behalf of every DHS union, wrote all the legal briefs and presented the legal arguments in court. NTEU's efforts were

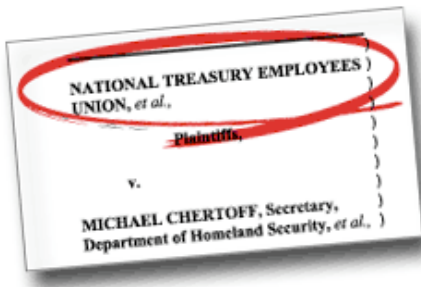


How It Happened

Thanks to NTEU efforts, [H.R. 1881](#), the measure that would end PASS and provide TSOs with full collective bargaining rights was introduced last week in the House. Here is how NTEU did it:

- For months, NTEU worked closely with Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.), chair of the House Homeland Security Committee, Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas) to craft the bill.
- In February, President Kelley attended a meeting

a complete success, as we blocked the regulations from taking effect.



“In the most important legal battle in DHS history, the agency unions turned to NTEU and we repeatedly beat DHS in court, securing a huge victory for fundamental fairness,” President Kelley said. “NTEU has a long

history of making positive change happen for federal employees, including when it comes to fair pay.”

In addition to our legal victories, NTEU also has been successful in winning congressional approval to cut DHS funding for its regressive workplace regulations. Legislative language won by NTEU for fiscal year 2009 prohibiting DHS from spending money on a new personnel system caused the agency to abandon its unfair personnel rules completely.

NTEU is going all out to maintain our record of success in securing fair pay for federal employees by lobbying members of the House of Representatives to approve [H.R. 1881](#). Introduced last week, the Transportation Security Workforce Enhancement Act of 2009 would give TSOs collective bargaining rights and end PASS, moving TSOs onto the General Schedule (GS), a true merit-pay system that covers most other federal employees.

Hear President Kelley discuss H.R. 1881 in a recent [Federal News Radio](#) interview.

Kelley attended a meeting with the three lawmakers to discuss the urgent need for civil service protections in the TSA workforce.

- She repeated this message during recent testimony at a hearing of the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Management, Investigations and Oversight.

- NTEU continues to work with the Obama administration to secure these rights through executive action.

**NTEU is ready and willing to help.
If you have questions, call toll free
1-866-591-5735 or e-mail TSA@nteu.org.**

***Please spread the word about
NTEU's TSA Update.***

It's free and keeps TSOs informed about important issues.

If you've received this from a friend or colleague, [sign up for your own copy](#).



NTEU's Mission: To organize federal employees to work together to ensure that every federal employee is treated with dignity and respect.

The *NTEU TSA Update* is a periodic electronic newsletter published by the National Treasury Employees Union for TSA employees. To subscribe or change your e-mail preferences, [visit the NTEU TSA Update subscription page](#).

**1750 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 572-5500
© 2009 National Treasury Employees Union. All rights reserved.**