



# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

**J. David Cox, Sr.**  
National President

**Eugene Hudson, Jr.**  
National Secretary-Treasurer

**Augusta Y. Thomas**  
National Vice President for  
Women and Fair Practices

March 5, 2015

Dear Local President/Secretary Treasurer:

## **Help Us Build Our Union**

In order for the Women's and Fair Practices Departments to continue building stronger Locals and strengthening our network of grassroots activists, we are asking all Local leaders who have not appointed or elected a Local Women's Coordinator (LWC), a Local Fair Practices Coordinator (LFPC) or a YOUNG Coordinator to please do so in 2015.

Our goal is to strengthen AFGE's engagement of current and potential members by reaching out to new and underrepresented groups of people by promoting education and training, innovative and life-issue based organizing and political and legislative action that promotes fairness and equality. The work of our Local Women's Coordinator, Local Fair Practices Coordinators and Local YOUNG Coordinators are essential to reaching out to those members who may not traditionally join a union.

It is the duty of our Local Women's Coordinators and the Local Fair Practices Coordinators to promote civil, human, women and workers' rights issues in their Locals. These kinds of issues usually affect the everyday lives of our members and the lives of their families.

It is the duty of our YOUNG Coordinators to promote the inclusive empowerment and education of young workers as engaged activists and leaders in the labor movement. This work encourages our younger unionists to step up and become vital participants the union.

For your convenience, we have enclosed a local coordinator data form to be completed upon your selection of a Local Women's Coordinator (LWC) and a Local Fair Practices Coordinator (LFPC) and a YOUNG Coordinator data form to be completed upon your selection of a YOUNG Coordinator. If you have any of these positions for your Local already please send us their information so we can ensure that we have the most current person's information.

If you would like more information on the roles and responsibilities of a Local Women's Coordinator, a Local Fair Practices Coordinator or a YOUNG Coordinator, please contact Caniesha Washington, Program Specialist, at 202-639-4005 or [Caniesha.Seldon@afge.org](mailto:Caniesha.Seldon@afge.org). You can mail the forms to AFGE Women's and Fair Practices Departments, 80 F Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20001, fax them to 202-639-4112 or scan and email them to Jorae Williams, Program Coordinator, at [Jorae.Williams@afge.org](mailto:Jorae.Williams@afge.org) by Friday, March 27, 2015.

## **Women's and Fair Practices Department's Convention Awards**

This August at the 2015 AFGE National Convention, the Bernice B. Heffner Outstanding Women's Achievement award and the A. Philip Randolph-Hubert H. Humphrey award will be presented by the Human Rights Committee (HRC) and the Women's and Fair Practices Departments. We would like our avid activists to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to recognize outstanding achievement. It is a valued tradition of the Human Rights Committee and the Women's and Fair Practices Departments to recognize those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty with regard to promoting civil, human, women, and workers' rights issues.

The Bernice B. Heffner Outstanding Women's Achievement award is an opportunity for members to nominate an individual who has exhibited outstanding leadership and action in their Local, Council, or District by advancing AFGE's goals on women's issues.



Bernice B. Heffner is one of AFGE's founding members. This award honors the memory of Ms. Heffner's determination, activism, and commitment to AFGE. As the first female member of AFGE's Executive Council, Ms. Heffner was elected National Secretary-Treasurer at the 1935 Convention and she held this position until her last election in 1952.

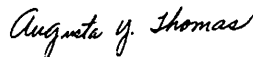
The A. Philip Randolph-Hubert H. Humphrey award is an opportunity for members to honor someone who exemplifies outstanding community activism. This member would have demonstrated such ability by participating in community service activities or in the development of community or workplace service-driven programs.

A. Philip Randolph was a true pioneer in the labor movement and the African-American community. He saw the power in these two groups working collectively for the greater good and the hope of all to achieve the American dream. This award honors an individual with the same vision and a desire to bring the community and the workplace together to fight for the equal rights of all.

This is a great opportunity for a Local to pay tribute to the hard work and dedication of those members who understand the importance of the goals of AFGE and the Women's and Fair Practices Departments work.

Enclosed you will find the criteria and nomination applications for each award. Information on these awards may also be found on the Women's and Fair Practices section of the AFGE website. Nominations must be postmarked **no later than May 8, 2015**.

In Unity,



Augusta Y. Thomas  
National Vice President for  
Women and Fair Practices

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Cc: National Executive Council  
Human Rights Committee (HRC)  
Local Women Coordinators (LWC)  
Local Fair Practices Coordinators (LFPC)