



Hillary  
Clinton

Donald  
Trump

## It's Time to Choose

Your Guide to the 2016 Election

### Table of Contents

President's Message	2
4 Reasons We're with Her	3
Trump Targets Veterans' Health Care	4
2016 Election Guide	5-8
Trump to TSOs: You're a Disaster	9
The End of Private Prisons?	10
Millennials Step Up to Lead Labor	11
AFGE Member Discounts	12

**IMPORTANT:** This information should not be downloaded using government equipment, read during duty time, sent to others using government equipment, or sent to anyone while in a government building because it involves election related activity.

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY**



## A Message from AFGE’s National President *J. David Cox Sr.*

**W**e’re now just weeks out from one of the most important elections of our lifetimes, and there’s no shortage of opinions out there about which way it should go. Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians and Greens all believe they should win for one reason or another, and it’s not always easy to keep up.

But it shouldn’t be this hard.

Voting, like any other decision, shouldn’t be about liberal vs. conservative or left vs. right, but about right and wrong. From the best-connected policy expert to the casual voter, everyone shares this innate sense of justice and fairness. And looking at this election through that lens makes our choice look clear as day.

As Commander in Chief, there is no duty more important than caring for our veterans and the families of fallen soldiers. Giving them the respect and medical care they earned is not just good policy, but the right thing to do. So when Donald Trump insults the parents of a soldier killed in action, faults prisoner of war John McCain for being captured, and joyfully boasts that he’ll toss millions of veterans out of the VA health care system, he is wrong.

As the defender of our Constitution, it is the President’s duty to preserve freedom of association, freedom of religion, and due process under law. But Donald Trump proudly supports banning an entire religion from entering this country in contradiction to our Constitutional principles. He supports “right to work for less” laws that crush unions and turn working people into voiceless cogs in the corporate machine. He supports Rep. Jeff Miller’s Koch-backed scheme to eliminate protections for VA workers fired under false pretenses – even going so far as to say Rep. Miller should be the next VA Secretary. When Donald Trump wraps himself in the flag while trampling on veterans and the people who care for them, he is wrong.

As the leader of hundreds of millions of working Americans, the President must work tirelessly for good-paying jobs. So why did Donald Trump say in a nationally televised debate that working people’s wages are too high? One can forgive a billionaire for being out of touch, but it gets worse. He endlessly rails against trade deals that ship jobs overseas, but has personally made millions

by outsourcing production of Trump suits and ties to China. Selling American jobs to the lowest bidder is not just bad policy, it’s wrong.

Sure, no politician is perfect. But when it comes to doing the right thing for Americans, it seems Donald Trump only cares about doing right by Donald Trump. He’s not a game changer – he’s a fraud.

Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, shares our values. She believes that we’re stronger together, not apart. She believes we need to leave America better than we found it, not fearful and divided. She believes in good union jobs and their everyday contribution to the American dream.

A vote for Hillary isn’t a vote for just a party or a candidate. It’s a vote for what’s right.

In Solidarity,

### AFGE—THE GOVERNMENT STANDARD

Vol. LXXXV, No. 5 September/October 2016. AFGE—The Government Standard (USPS 003-219, ISSN 1041- 5335) is the official membership publication of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, 80 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20001. Phone: 202.737.8700, [www.afge.org](http://www.afge.org).

**J. David Cox Sr.** National President  
**Eugene Hudson Jr.** National Secretary-Treasurer  
**Augusta Y. Thomas** National Vice President for Women and Fair Practices

### National Vice Presidents:

- District 2 — *Vincent R. Castellano Sr.*, 732.828.9449; NY, NJ, CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT.
- District 3 — *Keith Hill*, 570.883.9572; DE, PA.
- District 4 — *Joseph Flynn*, 410.480.1820; MD, NC, VA, WV.
- District 5 — *Everett Kelley*, 770.907.2055; AL, FL, GA, SC, TN, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico.
- District 6 — *Arnold Scott*, 317.755.2093; IN, KY, OH.
- District 7 — *Dorothy James*, 312.421.6245; IL, MI, WI.
- District 8 — *Jane Nygaard*, 952.854.3216; IA, MN, NE, ND, SD.
- District 9 — *Michael Kelly*, 405.670.2656; AR, KS, MO, OK.
- District 10 — *Cheryl Eliano*, 210.735.8900; LA, MS, TX, NM, Panama.
- District 11 — *Gerald D. Swanke*, 360.253.2616; AK, CO, ID, MT, OR, UT, WA, WY, Guam, Okinawa.
- District 12 — *George McCubbin*, 760.233.7600; AZ, CA, HI, NV.
- District 14 — *Eric Bunn Sr.*, 202.639.6447; District of Columbia, Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties in Maryland; Arlington and Fairfax Counties and the City of Alexandria in Virginia.

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY**

## 4

Reasons Why  
AFGE is with Her

*Americans are stronger when we work together to make things better for our communities. We may disagree on some things – or even a lot of things – but in the end, we can all agree on the importance of a good job, a secure retirement, and a better future for our families.*

There's only one candidate who promised to raise wages – not cut them. There's only one candidate who believes public workers deserve a decent pension for decades of service. And there's certainly only one candidate who wants to leave a more just and equal future for all Americans.

We're talking about Hillary Clinton, and we're with her.

## 1 Voice on the Job

Hillary believes in a strong middle class. She supports the right of working people to come together in union to have a voice at work. She'll stand up to the people who want to crush our union.

## 2 Fair Compensation

Hillary values public servants and their contributions to the country. That's why she supports a real pay increase for federal employees.

## 3 No More Furloughs or Shutdowns

She vowed to fight government shutdowns because they only hurt the American people, public employees, and local economies.

## 4 A Government We Can Count On

Hillary understands that government must always put people before profits. She believes our country should keep our promise to veterans and provide safety and security for the American people. That's why she opposes selling veterans' health care, airport security, and prisons to private business. She has our backs, now we need to have hers.

***"So if anyone asks you  
if labor will have a seat  
at the table in my White  
House, I hope you know  
the answer. Of course you  
will. Labor built the table."***

– Hillary Clinton, Democratic Nominee

Go to [www.afge.org/electioncenter](http://www.afge.org/electioncenter) to see how Hillary is fighting for you.

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY

## Meet Rep. Jeff Miller



For years, Miller has offered plans to dismantle the VA. He wants to:

- Close VA hospitals and force veterans to fight for care in for-profit facilities
- Make it easier for managers to fire VA workers like you with no cause
- Weaken protections for whistleblowers who want to protect veterans

Scary, right? **It gets worse.**



**Donald Trump wants Jeff Miller to be VA Secretary so no one can stop his anti-worker, anti-veteran agenda.**

## Donald Trump's Reckless Plan for Veterans

All independent assessments agree that the VA's health care is second to none. Veterans overwhelmingly want their health care to come from the VA, not private hospitals. Every Veterans Service Organization is opposed to privatizing the VA. But one man is not interested in listening to the facts: Donald Trump.

Donald Trump has said repeatedly that he wants to ship millions more veterans into the private, for-profit health care system – the system that spends more and accomplishes less than any in the developed world. All privatization would accomplish is make it easier for huge hospital corporations to profit off the suffering of veterans.

This is an outrageous betrayal of our nation's promise to care for the men and women who have borne the battle. But it's nothing new for Trump. In 1991 and then again in 2004, Trump requested that New York politicians take action against disabled veterans working as street vendors in front of Trump Tower. He equated their businesses with "vagrants" and "drug addicts" that besmirched his property value.

This May, Trump said Sen. John McCain – who spent five years in a North Vietnamese prison camp – is not a war hero. He said that McCain's imprisonment disqualifies him from that honor, since prisoners of war had been captured and that he prefers "people who weren't captured." Keep in mind that this is coming from a man who took five deferments to dodge service in Vietnam.

If Trump were serious about being Commander in Chief, he would invest in veterans' health care and give them the respect they earned – not break our nation's promise.



## Are You Registered to Vote?

Register • Find Polling Place • Get Out the Vote

[www.afge.org/electioncenter](http://www.afge.org/electioncenter)

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY

# Election 2016

## A Public Servant's Guide to the 2016 Elections



It sounds like an old cliché, but 2016 has proven it to be true: this election will be the most consequential of our generation. What started as a series of bad jokes and status quo candidates has turned into a choice between two very different Americas. And we didn't get here by accident.

### They Stacked the Deck, Then Blamed You

Lawmakers duped the public into believing “big government” is the reason our country lost its way. They starved your agencies of resources, leading to furloughs, layoffs, and pay cuts. Anti-government lawmakers and their corporate pals hollowed out government so they could run amok with our economy and game our democracy. They dumped their fortunes into making government work for them. In 2012, just 159 people contributed 60 percent of all the money spent in U.S. elections.

Charlatans who paint Uncle Sam as a

boogey man say that unions are bad for business and bad for democracy. Don't be intimidated. We know we're the ones who make America work.

### Stronger Together

Unlike the corporate SuperPACs, unions are made up of hard-working Americans from all walks of life and from every corner of our nation. We easily outnumber those 159 donors. On Election Day, we must send a message that America can't be bought.

From the presidential race to our local elections, our votes must declare that the American dream isn't a luxury reserved for those at the top. It's a promise that is remade for every generation of Americans and we're not going to give it up without a fight.

***Pull out pages 5-8 and use it as a guide at the polls in November.***

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY**

## Republicans and Democrats Lay Out Competing Visions for America's Future



Let's face it – politicians and pundits spread a lot of hot air every election. So much so that it's hard to know what candidates really stand for. But we have a shortcut for cutting through all the noise and learning what the candidates will really do if elected into office: the party platforms.

Each year, the major political parties adopt a long list of policy positions on the most important issues facing our nation. There are key differences between the Democratic and Republican platforms that affect your wallet and your future. Here are the facts:

Democratic Platform	Republican Platform
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support raising minimum wage and strengthening unions to bargain better wages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oppose raising minimum wage and allow corporations to pay poverty wages to workers</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect workers' rights to come together in union and bargain for a better future</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make it harder for workers to form/join a union</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve Social Security, Medicare &amp; Medicaid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut Social Security, Medicare &amp; Medicaid</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close tax loopholes for millionaires and billionaires and make them pay their fair share so we can fund the services America deserves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the tax loopholes for tax evaders and lower taxes for corporations and the rich, leading to lower government revenues and more furloughs</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in infrastructure, science, research, education, and technology that improves our lives and puts Americans back to work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeal EPA regulations against polluters and declare coal a clean form of energy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guarantee rights for women, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ Americans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reject LGBTQ rights and support scientifically baseless methods for "curing" LGBT children</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fight to end federal, state, and municipal for-profit private prisons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote cuts to federal spending that affect your job, pay, and retirement</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take on Wall Street/corporations to protect working people and hold them accountable when they break the law</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeal consumer protections against greedy Wall Street banks, which were put in place after the deepest financial crisis in generations</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect workers' defined benefit pensions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support voter suppression laws, limiting turnout</li> </ul>

Looking at each party's vision, the choice is clear this November. Hillary Clinton stands for an America where public service is appreciated, hard work is rewarded, and everyone is a valued part of our country. And that's why we need to stand with her. Get involved at [www.afge.org/electioncenter](http://www.afge.org/electioncenter) today!

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY**

## Make a Difference in This Election: Become a Volunteer!



**W**e don't have to tell you how much is at stake for public servants in this election: our pay checks, jobs, and rights at work all hang in the balance. It is up to each of us to put in the work to elect pro-worker candidates for local, state, and national office. And we need you to do your part.



### Join us for a Phone Bank

Join us for phone banking sessions across the U.S. to call fellow unionists and discuss the election.



### Speak with Voters Door-to-Door

Walk, knock, and talk with your brothers and sisters by going door-to-door engaging fellow unionists about the election.



### Attend a Campaign Rally or Event

Meet candidates for national and local office by attending events for AFGE's endorsed candidates. Bring a friend too!



### Invest in Pro-Worker Candidates

\$5 or \$10 a month is a small price to pay to boot bad lawmakers. Invest in your future and support AFGE PAC today!

Sign up to volunteer today at [www.afge.org/volunteer2016!](http://www.afge.org/volunteer2016!)

## It's Election Season: Here's Your Hatch Act 101

**E**lection season means we all need to start thinking about the Hatch Act, a federal law that limits political activity while at work, wearing a government uniform, or driving a government vehicle. The Hatch Act can seem complex to beginners, but don't fret. Here's a brief list of Hatch Act Do's and Don'ts.

### Safe activities while at work:

- Talk with your co-workers about legislative and agency issues like pay, working conditions, contracting out, and personnel reform.
- Invite all employees, AFGE members, and potential members to a meeting at work to discuss issues affecting them. Then, sign up new members.
- Post fliers about issues important to federal employees on bulletin boards.

- Hold a rally or press conference on federal employee issues. These aren't violations, but be sure to check other agency regulations.

### Never safe for work or home:

- Don't engage in political activity for a candidate while on duty, in a government office, in uniform, or while using a government vehicle.
- Don't use government computers or email systems to campaign for or against a candidate, or distribute election-related news or information.
- Don't use agency business cards or official job title when engaging in political activity.
- Don't host a fundraising event or stand up at a fundraiser and ask to contribute to a candidate.

Contributions to AFGE-PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Your voluntary decision to contribute more, less or not to contribute at all will not result in any favor or disadvantage in your relationship with AFGE.

# ★ AFGE's Key Races for 2016 ★

**D**espite what you hear in the news, this election is about more than Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. Thousands of races are happening across the country and who wins could be the difference between the first real pay increase in years and more of the same. Here are the key races we are watching:



**Ann Kirkpatrick**  
Senate (AZ)



**Lisa Murkowski**  
Senate (AK)



**Paul Cook**  
House (CA-08)



**Michael Bennet**  
Senate (CO)



**Richard Blumenthal**  
Senate (CT)



**Val Demings**  
House (FL-10)



**Patrick Murphy**  
Senate (FL)



**Patty Judge**  
Senate (IA)



**Tammy Duckworth**  
Senate (IL)



**Evan Bayh**  
Senate (IN)



**Chris Van Hollen**  
Senate (MD)



**Deborah Ross**  
Senate (NC)



**Maggie Hassan**  
Senate (NH)



**Ruben Kihuen**  
House (NV-04)



**Catherine Cortez Masto**  
Senate (NV)



**Tim Murphy**  
House (PA-18)



**Ted Strickland**  
Senate (OH)



**Katie McGinty**  
Senate (PA)



**Pete Gallego**  
House (TX-23)



**Russ Feingold**  
Senate (WI)

# Trump to TSOs: You're a "Total Disaster"

## WHAT DOES A GUY WHO FLIES IN THIS



## KNOW ABOUT AIRPORT SCREENING?

**R**epublican presidential nominee Donald Trump wasted no time going after the men and women who keep the flying public safe.

In his nomination speech at the Republican National Convention – in front of a television audience of 30 million Americans – Trump called the Transportation Security Administration a “total disaster” and vowed to “fix TSA.”

Besides this being a slap in the face to hardworking TSOs, it's a disturbing preview of what's in store should he take the White House in November.

*“I have no doubt that Donald Trump's idea of fixing TSA would be the same as his prescription for the VA: privatize it and sell our jobs to the lowest bidder,” said AFGE National President J. David Cox Sr.*

And, Trump isn't alone. Lawmakers like Reps. Darrell Issa (CA), John Mica (FL), Mike Rogers (MI) and

other leading Republicans also are calling for total privatization of the TSA workforce.

*“The TSA doesn't need a ‘for sale’ sign, it needs Congress to provide TSA with a realistic budget so they can hire the officers it needs to do the job and pay officers what they're worth,” Cox said.*

What the privatizers won't tell you is that selling off airport security will take us back to the pre-9/11 security program that failed us so badly 15 years ago.

“Donald Trump and his friends must have a selective memory,” Cox said. “His proposals are a clear and present danger to the flying public. No one should be fooled by his smoke and mirrors magic show.”

Secretary Hillary Clinton has promised to keep trained TSA professionals on the job so passengers will continue to come before profits. Hillary has our backs – now we need to have hers on November 8th.

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY

## I WANT YOU to Support AFGE PAC!



**\$5 or \$10 a month is a small price to pay to protect your family's livelihood.**

Invest in Your Future. Join AFGE PAC Today at [www.afge.org/myPAC](http://www.afge.org/myPAC).

Contributions to AFGE-PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Your voluntary decision to contribute more, less or not to contribute at all will not result in any favor or disadvantage in your relationship with AFGE.

## Donald Trump: “Private Prisons Work a Lot Better”



publically that he supports privatizing prisons, even going so far to say they do it better than the well-trained professionals working at the Bureau of Prisons.

***“I do think we can do a lot of privatizations, and in private prisons it seems to work a lot better.”***

– Donald Trump, Republican Nominee

**A**fter years of pressure from AFGE Council of Prison Locals activists, the Department of Justice announced that the Bureau of Prisons would gradually end its use of private prisons. This is a huge victory for correctional workers and the communities they protect.

On the other hand, Hillary Clinton strongly opposes the privatization of the prison system, saying that private prisons outsource government responsibility. She also pledged to address overcrowding in our nation’s prisons, which puts officers in danger of violent attack.

But if Donald Trump wins in November, he could turn back the clock on this progress. Trump has said

The choice for correctional workers is clear – officer safety trumps profits.



National organizer Jeremy Lannan, Carol Richardson of L1148, D-6 NVP Arnold Scott, and Cheryl Abercrombie-Beckett of L1148.

### How Do You Achieve Big Goals? Make a Big Plan.

**W**hen workers at Fort Knox decided to quadruple the membership of AFGE Local 2302, they knew it wouldn’t be a cakewalk.

But that didn’t stop the local from moving forward with the plan they developed at the June AFGE National Leadership Meeting. They got to work educating their community on the benefits of union membership, union rights, and strength in numbers.

With help from AFGE National and District 6, Local 2302 members formed an organizing committee, developed a plan, and got to work. Within months, they grew their local to 600 members.

Here are some planning tips from Local 2302:

- Identify your strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.
- Always advertise your organizing events.
- Make an organizing schedule for the events with details on date, type of event, location, and staff.
- Ask members to help with the organizing events.
- Collaborate with other locals to host a joint event.
- Work closely with your district and national staff.
- Ask for help if you need it.
- Debrief every few months to go over lessons learned and adjust the plan if necessary.
- Publicize your local’s and national office’s accomplishments.

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY**

## District 14 Members Bring Smiles and School Supplies to Area Children



*District 14 members and city officials team up at Peace in the Park*

With music pumping through the speakers and temperatures exceeding 100 degrees, hundreds of D.C. residents from the Stoddert Terrace public housing development were treated to a rare sight: officials from the D.C. police, fire, emergency medical services, and District 14's own Local 1456 doing the electric slide.

D.C. residents came out by the hundreds as part of the District's annual community engagement event, Peace in the Park, in Southeast Washington. The event offers under-resourced residents access to

mental health professionals, free HIV screenings, and back-to-school supplies. Attendees who braved the extreme heat also received complimentary food, drinks, ice cream, face painting, and performances by local artists.

"We need to be a part of the change we wanted to see in our communities," said AFGE Local 1456 Steward Audrey Smith. "We want to provide D.C. residents with the resources and valuable access to information they need, and to make sure that these children are prepared for the school year ahead."

## Y.O.U.N.G. Members: Millennials Raise Their Voices in 2016

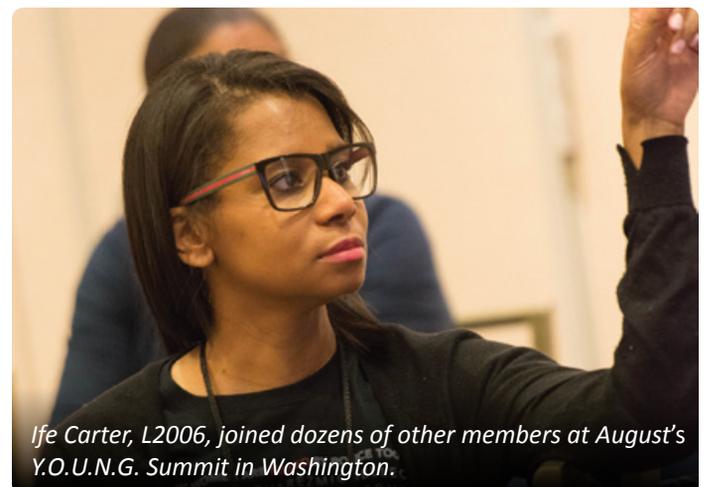
This election season, both political parties have vied to win over the votes of people born between 1982 and 2002, or as they're better known, the "millennial generation."

During the Women's and Fair Practices Departments' 3rd Annual Diversity Week training in August, AFGE's Y.O.U.N.G. members (that is, the Young Organizing Unionists for the Next Generation) made it clear that they don't intend to sit out the upcoming campaign.

Millennials have been told they're the first generation that will be worse off than their parents in terms of economic stability and opportunity. AFGE's Y.O.U.N.G. leaders are poised to prove the political pundits wrong.

Putting party affiliation and favored candidates aside, the activists agree on the most pressing issues young

people want to see addressed – from the economy, to racial and gender justice, to opportunities for working people to do better for their families. During their breakout session, attendees developed strategies to expand their voice in 2016.



*Ife Carter, L2006, joined dozens of other members at August's Y.O.U.N.G. Summit in Washington.*

**AFGE**



**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF  
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO**

80 F Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

[www.afge.org](http://www.afge.org)

Non-Profit  
US Postage

**PAID**

Washington DC  
Permit #3070

# For Every Part of **Your** Life



From buying a home to renting a car to savings on wireless service and travel, Union Plus provides money-saving benefits and services uniquely designed to meet the needs of AFGE members and their families.

Learn more at  
**AFGE.org**



**SAVINGS • SERVICE • SOLIDARITY**

**IMPORTANT:** This information should not be downloaded using government equipment, read during duty time, sent to others using government equipment, or sent to anyone while in a government building because it involves election related activity.

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE ON FEDERAL PROPERTY