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October 28, 2015

DECISION

Protest I-10-15 (Rocco)
Candidates wearing Union t-shirts

By email dated October 19, 2015, Richard Rocco, a candidate for Executive Board and Division Chair in Structure on the Stand United Slate, filed a protest that the Members' Rights Slate posted flyers included photographs of the candidates on the slate wearing TWU Local 100 t-shirts. The Protester argues that this creates the impression that the candidates are being supported by the Union or are already Union officers.

According to the Protester, the t-shirts that the candidates in the photograph were wearing are t-shirts that are generally available to all TWU Local 100 members. They are, for example, often distributed at Union events. I therefore find that there is nothing in the Election Rules that prevents a candidate from wearing such a t-shirt while campaigning, including being photographed wearing such a t-shirt in a flyer in support of his or her campaign. I do not agree that being so photographed conveys any message other than that the candidates are proud Union members. The message is that they support their Union, not that the Union supports them.

The protest is denied.

In accordance with the International Constitution and the Election Rules, any interested party unsatisfied with this determination may appeal to the Transport Workers Union of America Committee on Appeals. Any appeal shall be in writing and shall be filed in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article IV(6)(I)(1) of the Election Rules and Articles XV and XXII of the International Constitution for the appeal to the

International from decisions of Local Unions.

/s/ Barbara C. Deinhardt

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By email:
Richard Rocco
Arthur Schwartz, Esq.
Vincent O'Hara, Esq.
Joe Campbell
Elections Committee