

**Barbara C. Deinhardt**  
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September 19, 2024

**DECISION**

Protest I-03-2024 (campaigning  
on paid time)

By email dated September 16, 2024, Roberto Chico filed a protest alleging that JP Patafio, a TAS Vice President, Union staff member and candidate on the Members First Slate, was campaigning on work time at the Jackie Gleason depot on Monday afternoon, September 15, at 1:45 PM. Mr. Patafio provided evidence that he was on a pre-approved vacation day on September 15.

I find that the Protester has not provided sufficient evidence to prove that Mr. Patafio was campaigning on time paid for by the Union. Election Rules VI(E)(5) states: "Campaigning by union officers and staff will be limited to the amount of time the candidate or other member has accrued as vacation, and has not used in 2024. Vacation request forms for union officers and staff must be approved in advance and request/approval forms and vacation balances must be made available to the Neutral Monitor upon request." Mr. Patafio requested his vacation in advance. I confirmed with the Financial Secretary-Treasurer's Office that he had sufficient vacation accruals and his request was approved in advance. There was no violation of the Rules.

Protest 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(B)(9) of the Election Rules and Article XXII of the International Constitution for the appeal to the International from decisions of Local Unions.



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By email:  
Roberto Chico  
JP Patafio  
Arthur Schwartz, Esq.  
Denis Engel, Esq.  
Elections Committee