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November 11, 2024

DECISION

Protest I-26-2024 (review of
sample ballots)

By email dated November 9, 2024, Hadjamaliek Williams filed a protest alleging that the Election Committee violated the Election Rules by scheduling the review of sample ballots while the Protester was out on vacation. According to the Protester, the schedule for reviewing sample ballots should have been included in the original Election Rules. He alleges that the short notice for the review of the ballots favors incumbent candidates as well as those on union-wide slates. As a remedy he requests additional days to review the sample ballots, at least 48-72 hours notice to attend any future candidate-involved functions, and/or a revision to the election calendar to delay the mailing and counting of ballots.

The Election Committee advised the Protester of the schedule to review sample ballots on Wednesday November 6. All candidates and slates were given three days—November 7, 8 and 11—to come in to look at the ballots (the third day being well after the 48-72 hours requested by the Protester). The schedule was later extended by an hour so that the review could take place until 6:00 PM on November 11 rather than 5:00 PM. The process followed by the Election Committee was identical to that followed in past elections, with the exception that candidates were given three days this election instead of two to review the ballots. The Protester is on a slate with six other people. While he may be on vacation, someone else from his slate could have come in to review the ballots. There is no way that the Election Committee can accommodate the personal schedules of all of the hundreds of candidates running for office in this election. Nor is it possible to delay the printing and mailing and counting of the ballots.

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:
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Elections Committee