

July 18, 2017

# TO: ALL AFT/CFT LOCAL PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS

# **FROM:** Jeffery M. Freitas, Secretary Treasurer *Freitas* California Federation of Teachers, AFT, AFL-CIO

# **RE:** Agency Fee (Fair Share) Audits for 2016

Our concern with the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the Hudson case has resulted in extensive consultation with attorneys and auditors on this issue of the portion of the CFT agency fee (fair share fee) that is chargeable and the amount that is non-chargeable (rebateable) to the agency fee payer.

The American Federation of Teachers agency fee audit for fiscal year ending April 30, 2017 will be available in August. In the meantime, the AFT agency fee audit for fiscal year ending April 30, 2016 is available online at www.cft.org/governance/financial-statements.html. According to the latest audit from AFT, the chargeable percentage for the AFT per capita from that document is 62.52% and the non-chargeable percentage is 37.48%. Once we receive the new audit, it will replace the statement available online.

The California Federation of Teachers report by the independent auditor, Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co., LLP, for the percentages below is attached for the year ending December 2016. This report can also be found at www.cft.org/governance/financial-statements.html. Based on the chargeable and nonchargeable expenses for the year, we calculated the percentages for the CFT per capita for 2017-2018 year to be as follows:

The CFT estimated chargeable expenses are 74.74%. The CFT estimated nonchargeable expenses are 25.26%.

The nonchargeable percentage is derived by dividing the expenses that are nonchargeable by the total expenses incurred.

The CFT agency fee audit report must be combined with your local and the National AFT reports and should be provided to agency fee payers at least 30 days prior to the collection of the first agency fee of the school year 2017-2018.

If you have any questions about your current implementation of agency fee, please contact the Sacramento office at 916-446-2788.

## **CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS**

# STATEMENT OF ALLOCATED CHARGEABLE AND NONCHARGEABLE EXPENSES

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016



## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Executive Council California Federation of Teachers 2550 North Hollywood Way, Suite 400 Burbank, California 91505

Members of the Council:

## Report on the Statement of Allocated Chargeable and Nonchargeable Expenses

We have audited the accompanying statement of allocated chargeable and nonchargeable expenses of the California Federation of Teachers (the "CFT") for the year ended December 31, 2016 and the related notes to the statement.

### Management's Responsibility for the Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this statement including the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the statement of allocated chargeable and nonchargeable expenses referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the chargeable and nonchargeable expenses of the CFT for the year ended December 31, 2016, based on the significant factors and assumptions described in Note 3.



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Executive Council California Federation of Teachers

## **Other Matter**

Based upon the significant factors and assumptions described in Note 3, the accompanying statement of allocated chargeable and nonchargeable expenses was prepared for the purpose of determining the percentage of chargeable and nonchargeable expenses used in calculating fair share fees. This statement is not intended to be a complete presentation of the CFT's expenses. The expenses reported in this statement were derived from the CFT's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016. We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the California Federation of Teachers as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and our report thereon dated June 26, 2017, expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements.

### **Restriction on Use**

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the CFT's management and other related parties and should not be used for any other purpose.

Mille Kaplan Chase LLP

MILLER KAPLAN ARASE LLP North Hollywood, California July 17, 2017

	Note	Total Expenses	Chargeable Expenses	Nonchargeable Expenses
DIRECT EXPENSES				
Personnel Expenses:	3-A			
Management		\$ 918,617	\$ 782,132	\$ 136,485
F.R.U.		2,691,737	2,234,732	457,005
O.P.E.I.U.		1,699,714	1,416,028	283,686
Other Personnel-Related Expenses	3-B	1,951,640	1,629,248	322,392
Travel and Lodging	3-C	264,915	219,626	45,289
Mileage Reimbursement	3-D	95,962	84,568	11,394
O.P.E.I.U. Travel Reimbursement	3-E	3,517	3,517	_
Financial Assistance to Locals	3-F	8,158,986	8,133,986	25,000
Departments:	• •	_, ,	-,,	
Communications and Publications	3-G	383,952	143,121	240,831
Governmental Relations	3-H	9,180	1,261	7,919
Information Technology	3-1	8,585	8,585	-
Leadership Development and Training	3-J	128,153	111,601	16,552
Research	3-5 3-K	10,361	10,361	10,002
	3-K 3-L		10,301	- 1,482
Organizing	J-L	1,482	-	1,402
Councils:	2 M	400.074	66.000	115 116
Community College Council	3-M	182,074	66,928	115,146
Council of Classified Employees	3-N	190,426	167,851	22,575
EC/K-12 Council	3-0	228,373	195,126	33,247
Retiree Council	3-P	2,895	2,316	579
Governance	3-Q	474,283	372,638	101,645
Committees and Task Forces	3-R	14,729	12,961	1,768
Professional Services	3-S	207,627	194,699	12,928
Miscellaneous	3-T	590,049	40,831	549,218
Raoul Teilhet Scholarship Fund Expenses	3-U	121,000	-	121,000
Legal Defense Fund Expenses	3-V	527,946	527,946	-
Proposition and Ballot Initiatives			,	
COPE Committee Expenses	3-W	1,995,260	-	1,995,260
COPE Candidate Committee Expenses	3-X	1,026,997	-	1,026,997
	• • • •			
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		\$ 21,888,460	\$ 16,360,062	\$ 5,528,398
INDIRECT EXPENSES				
Building Occupancy		\$ 653,467	\$ 488,420	\$ 165,047
Building Repairs and Maintenance		4,523	3,381	1,142
Furniture and Equipment - Acquisition		100,925	75,434	25,491
Furniture and Equipment - Repairs and Maintenance		26,860	20,076	6,784
Office Supplies		49,701	37,148	12,553
Postage and Shipping		29,523	22,066	7,457
Printing		9,616	7,187	2,429
Subscriptions		6,424	4,801	1,623
Telecommunications		84,758	63,351	21,407
Depreciation		19,605	14,653	4,952
Bank Charges		451	337	114
		6,643	4,965	1,678
Payroll Processing Fees				2,112
Property Insurance		8,359 1,710	6,247 1,278	432
Property Taxes				
Benefits Supplies and Shipping		1,036	774	262
CFT Archives/Storage		660	493	167
Professional Services		160,803	120,189	40,614
Retiree Benefits		136,089	101,717	34,372
TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES		\$ 1,301,153	\$ 972,517	\$ 328,636
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 23,189,613	\$ 17,332,579	\$ 5,857,034
PERCENTAGES		<u>100.00%</u>	<u>74.74%</u>	<u>25.26%</u>

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. <u>Expenses</u>

The statement of allocated chargeable and nonchargeable expenses has been prepared on the accrual basis; consequently, certain expenses have been recognized when the obligation is incurred rather than when paid.

#### B. <u>Accounting Estimates</u>

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported expenses during the reporting period and the allocation of expenses between chargeable and nonchargeable. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

#### C. <u>Tax-Exempt Status</u>

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to evaluate tax positions taken by the CFT and recognize a tax liability if the CFT has taken a tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by a tax authority. The CFT is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

No provision for federal or state income tax is made. The CFT and the Legal Defense Fund have received tax-exempt status from the federal government under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(5) and the state of California under Revenue and Taxation Code Section 23701a.

The General, Scholarship, Dues Collections, Proposition and Ballot Initiative COPE Committee, and Militancy funds share the same federal and state employer identification numbers and are included in the same returns.

The Western States Insurance Trust is a taxable complex trust.

The COPE Candidate Committee is subject to taxation under Internal Revenue Code Section 527 and the state of California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 23701r on investment income in excess of \$100.

#### D. Pensions

The CFT incurs expenses related to five pension plans. Benefits under the CFT's 401(k) Plans are based on the required contributions made to the Plans. Pension costs for the CFT's defined benefit plan are determined by actuarial valuation. The CFT makes contributions to two Offices and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU) pension plans for the office and clerical staff, one for its Northern California employees and one for its Southern California employees. These Plans may have liabilities for unfunded vested benefits at December 31, 2016 requiring assessment of withdrawal liability from contributing employers who withdraw from the Plans. The management of the CFT has expressed no intent to withdraw from these Plans and the withdrawal liability, if any, to the CFT has not been computed. The pension costs for the defined benefit pension plan, which covers the CFT's management and field employees, are determined by actuarial valuation.

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### E. <u>Postretirement Medical Benefits - Management/F.R.U.</u>

Effective May 1, 2002, the CFT established the transition obligation related to its postretirement health benefits. The obligation is amortized on a straight-line basis over 20 years. Annual benefit expense for the plan includes service costs, interest and amortization of the transition obligation.

#### F. <u>O.P.E.I.U. Postretirement Medical Benefits</u>

Effective January 1, 2009, the CFT established the transition obligation related to its O.P.E.I.U. postretirement health benefits. The obligation is amortized on a straight-line basis over 20 years. Annual benefit expense for the Plan includes service costs, interest and amortization of the transition obligation.

### G. Office Furniture and Equipment

Office furniture and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation is determined for related groups of assets under the straight-line method, based upon their estimated useful lives, which range from 3 to 5 years. Minor renewals or replacements, and maintenance and repairs are expensed. Major replacements and improvements are capitalized.

#### H. <u>Compensated Absences</u>

The CFT accrues accumulated vacation expense as it is earned by its employees under the various contracts and agreements. Accumulated sick leave of over 20 days is payable to clerical employees at 50% of their regular pay rate.

#### NOTE 2 - FAIR SHARE/AGENCY FEES

#### A. Background

In 1986, the United States Supreme Court issued a decision in Chicago Teachers Union vs. Hudson regarding certain procedures that must be followed by labor organizations that collect fair share fees from fair shares payers under a collective bargaining agreement with a public employer. In its decision, the United States Supreme Court reaffirmed the constitutionality of such fair share fee agreements, originally upheld in Abood vs. Detroit Board of Education. In other cases, Ellis vs. Railway Clerks and Lehnert vs. Ferris Faculty Association, the United States Supreme Court held that certain union expenditures could be charged to fair share fee payers, but that certain others could not be charged.

#### B. Definitions

Expenses as to the following activities are totally chargeable:

- 1. Operation and governing of the CFT, including CFT elections.
- 2. Preparation for, negotiation and administration of collective bargaining agreements.
- 3. Ratification of collective bargaining agreements.
- 4. Grievances and arbitrations.

## NOTE 2 - FAIR SHARE/AGENCY FEES (Continued)

- B. <u>Definitions</u> (Continued)
  - 5. Purchasing books, periodicals and reports relating to chargeable activities.
  - 6. Using technicians and professionals in labor law, economics and other subjects for services used in connection with chargeable activities.
  - 7. Publishing those portions of newspapers and newsletters which concern matters for which a union can charge a fair share fee payer, and/or concerning teaching and education generally, professional development, unemployment, job opportunities, award programs and other miscellaneous matters analogous to chargeable de minimis social activity.
  - 8. Mediation, strikes, slow-down and work stoppages as to representation and collective bargaining.
  - 9. The prosecution or defense of litigation as to interpretation or enforcement of collective bargaining agreements or collective bargaining or representational rights.
  - 10. Social and recreational activities open to both members and fair share fee payers.
  - 11. Payments for insurance, medical care, retirement, disability and death-related benefits for persons paid for services in carrying out the representational interest of collective bargaining and contract administration.
  - 12. Operating and administrative costs of the CFT on such as rent, utilities, automobiles, salaries, etc.

Expenses as to the following activities are not chargeable:

- 1. Voter registration, get-out-the-vote and political campaigns.
- 2. Supporting and contributing to charitable or ideological organizations.
- 3. Supporting and contributing to political organizations and candidates for public office.
- 4. Supporting and contributing to ideological causes and committees, including ballot measures.
- 5. Supporting and contributing to activities as to foreign affairs.
- 6. Members-only benefits.
- 7. Litigation not related to bargaining unit matters, collective bargaining or representation.
- 8. Organizing; recruitment of members.
- 9. Lobbying federal, state and local.

### NOTE 3 - SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AND ASSUMPTIONS USED IN THE ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE AND NONCHARGEABLE

All expenses were segregated into two classes: direct expenses and indirect expenses. Direct expenses consisted of those expenses for which a clear, measurable relationship to representational activities could be identified. All other expenses were classified as indirect expenses. Management believed that the representational character of indirect expenses was related to direct expenses and, accordingly, that it was appropriate to allocate indirect expenses in proportion to the aggregate allocation percentage derived for the direct expenses. Significant factors and assumptions used in the allocation of the direct expenses are discussed below.

#### A. <u>Personnel Expenses</u>

Management, representation and support staff who performed the CFT's activities prepared weekly activity reports, which documented the time spent on various representational and nonrepresentational activities. These activity reports were the basis for allocating their salaries and benefits commensurate to the proportion of time spent performing representational work.

The salaries and benefits of certain support employees were allocated on the basis of a weighted average of the proportion of time spent working with the individuals described above. Certain other employees' salaries were allocated on the basis of the character of the job performed.

#### B. Other Personnel-Related Expenses

These expenses were allocated in proportion to the ratio of aggregate chargeable direct salaries and benefits derived pursuant to the methodology described in Note 3(A) above to total direct salaries and benefits.

#### C. Travel and Lodging

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### D. <u>Mileage Reimbursement</u>

These expenses were allocated in proportion to the time spent by management and representation staff on various representational and nonrepresentational activities as documented in their weekly activity reports.

#### E. O.P.E.I.U. Travel Reimbursement

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### F. Financial Assistance to Locals

Local staff funding programs are required by the CFT's constitution. This financial assistance is provided to local unions for the purpose of employing professional staff at the local level to assist with representational activities and allocated as chargeable.

Organizing grant was allocated as nonchargeable.

### NOTE 3 - SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AND ASSUMPTIONS USED IN THE ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE AND NONCHARGEABLE (Continued)

#### G. <u>Communications and Publications</u>

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

One of the four publications that the CFT produces, which is distributed to both members and fair share fee payers, is included under this category. As a result, the issues of this publication were analyzed and the costs allocated in proportion to the relative space devoted to representational and nonrepresentational matters.

Also, promotional items and public and community relations were allocated as nonchargeable.

#### H. <u>Governmental Relations</u>

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

Legislative subscriptions and other legislative-related expenses were allocated as nonchargeable.

#### I. Informational Technology

Professional staff that performed the CFT's informational technology activities prepared weekly activity reports, which documented the time spent on various representational and nonrepresentational activities. These activity reports were the basis for allocating their salaries and salary-related expenses commensurate to the proportion of time spent performing representational work. The salaries of support employees were allocated on the basis of a weighted average of the proportion of time spent working with the individuals previously described.

Other related expenses were analyzed to identify the work that was performed in conjunction with chargeable and nonchargable activities.

#### J. Leadership Development and Training

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### K. Research

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### L. Organizing

Organizing expenses were allocated as nonchargeable.

## NOTE 3 - SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AND ASSUMPTIONS USED IN THE ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE AND NONCHARGEABLE (Continued)

### M. Community College Council

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

Two of the four publications that the CFT produces, which are distributed to both members and fair share fee payers, are included under this category. As a result, the issues of these publications were analyzed and the costs allocated in proportion to the relative space devoted to representational and nonrepresentational matters.

### N. Council of Classified Employees

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

One of the four publications that the CFT produces, which is distributed to both members and fair share fee payers, is included under this category. As a result, the issues of this publication were analyzed and the costs allocated in proportion to the relative space devoted to representational and nonrepresentational matters.

### O. <u>EC/K-12 Council</u>

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### P. <u>Retiree Council</u>

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### Q. <u>Governance</u>

These expenses were analyzed to identify the work that was performed in conjunction with chargeable and nonchargable activities.

#### R. <u>Committees and Task Forces</u>

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

#### S. <u>Professional Services</u>

These expenses were analyzed to identify the work that was performed in conjunction with chargeable and nonchargable activities.

#### T. <u>Miscellaneous</u>

These expenses were analyzed in order to identify the nature of the activities for which the CFT incurred them and allocated accordingly.

## NOTE 3 - SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AND ASSUMPTIONS USED IN THE ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE AND NONCHARGEABLE (Continued)

#### U. Raoul Teilhet Scholarship Fund Expenses

These expenses were for scholarships and related expenses to assist some well deserving high school students with funds that will benefit them in pursuing their college education and were allocated as nonchargable.

#### V. Legal Defense Fund Expenses

The CFT's Legal Defense Fund is available to members and fair share fee payers and grants assistance to locals to help protect the rights of teachers, career service personnel and other educational workers, as well as state and local employees. This Fund is administered through a Board of Directors comprised of seven members of the CFT's Executive Council. Direct Legal Defense Fund expenses were allocated as chargeable.

#### W. Proposition and Ballot Initiatives COPE Committee Expenses

These expenses are to support state and local ballot initiatives, which the CFT believes further the goals of education and students and are generally nonchargeable.

#### X. <u>COPE Candidate Committee Expenses</u>

These expenses are to support state and local candidates running for public office who further the goals of the CFT and its membership. These expenses are allocated as nonchargeable.

#### NOTE 4 - ADJUSTMENT TO EXPENSES

The following adjustment has been made to the total expenses originally reported on the CFT's financial statements as of December 31, 2016:

Total Expenses Per the Financial Statements		24,933,177
Less: Agency Fee Rebates (A)		(123,080)
Administrative Expense Reimbursements and		
Sale of CFT Pocket Calendars (B)		(874,957)
Voluntary Contributions: (C)		
Proposition and Ballot Initiatives		
COPE Committee		(509,540)
COPE Candidate Committee		(235,987)
Total Adjusted Expenses	\$	23,189,613

- (A) For purposes of this statement, total expenses were reduced by the amount of agency fee rebates the CFT paid to its affiliated Local Unions to reimburse them for paying full per capita on nonmembers. This offsets the difference for nonmembers not paying full dues to them.
- (B) For purposes of this statement, total expenses were reduced by the total reimbursed costs for administrative and other services provided by the CFT to various related entities. In addition, cash disbursements for the purchase of CFT pocket calendars were offset by the proceeds from sales. Pocket calendars are considered nonchargeable.
- (C) For purposes of this statement, total Proposition and Ballot Initiatives COPE Committee and COPE Candidate Committee expenses were offset by the voluntary contributions received during the year.