



August 26, 2010

From: Mark Brunell, GSU National President

To: Local Presidents  
National Council  
Government Services Union, PSAC

Subject: Public Service Staffing Tribunal representation

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Greetings,

It has come to my attention that there is some confusion around Public Service Staffing Tribunal representation.

The issue of costs related to staffing representation has been decided by GSU National Convention on three occasions - in 1999 (Resolution 99-85), in 2002 (Resolution 02-46) and in 2005 (Resolution 05-54).

At all three Conventions, delegates rejected proposals that GSU should cover costs related to staffing representation, confirming that Locals are responsible for any costs arising from that representation.

In 2008 an identical resolution (08-40) with a committee recommendation of non-concurrence was referred by Convention to National Council; it was subsequently ruled out of order as it would have amended the Budget approved by Convention.

GSU and National Council are bound by Convention, and our approach to PSST representation is based upon these Convention decisions.

Accordingly, I have ruled that costs associated with PSST representation are the sole responsibility of Locals.

In extraordinary circumstance GSU may assist Locals in meeting these responsibilities but as a rule Locals are expected to include provisions for representation costs in their Local budgets, as required by GSU Regulation 8.

At our meeting in September I will be asking National Council to develop guidelines and a protocol to assist Locals in PSST cases while respecting Convention decisions. I am also directing GSU staff to remind Locals of these decisions whenever cases are referred to PSST representatives. Locals and representatives are responsible for finalizing arrangements regarding representation costs.

Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Brunell', written in a cursive style.

Mark Brunell  
National President  
Government Services Union, PSAC

cc: B. Cameron  
S. Lambert  
T. Philliben  
GSU National Office