ANTI-UNION PROPAGANDA ALERT

Freedom Foundation / Opt Out Today

The NJEA Center for Honesty in Education has received repeated reports of anti-union propaganda appearing in the home mailboxes of NJEA members around the state. All NJEA staff and leaders should be advised that the Center has received reports of these mailings in every region of the state over the last year.

The latest mailing from Freedom Foundation, as part of their project “Opt Out Today”, presents itself as a “Labor Union Satisfaction Survey”, and instructs members to complete a series of questions and return them by mail. While the business reply address on this postcard is labeled “NJEA PRESIDENT”, the address is really the Freedom Foundation headquarters in Olympia, WA.

Freedom Foundation is a libertarian think tank founded in Washington, with offices in Ohio, Pennsylvania, California, and Oregon. They describe themselves as “a battle tank that’s battering the entrenched power of left-wing government union bosses who represent a permanent lobby for bigger government, higher taxes, and radical social agendas.” This clear political agenda is only exposed further when looking closer at their financial reports. IRS filings have laid bare the millions of dollars in funding Freedom Foundation has received from radical conservative families like Coors, Bradley, Koch, and Scaife, not to mention millions more from dark money groups like DonorsTrust and State Policy Network.

How did they get our members home addresses?

These days, the expectation of data privacy is constantly shrinking. Public information requests from school districts or state agencies, combined with private commercial data sources and powerful analytics tools make it easier every day to obtain lists of individuals. We are not aware of any membership data leaks or widespread data acquisition attempts.

What should I do?

All members are advised that this mailing is NOT from NJEA, and this survey should not be completed.

Organizations that seek to undermine union membership usually have financial motives, and Freedom Foundation is no exception. Their donors have a vested interest in reducing the strength of working people and the ability of government agencies to regulate the industries in which they amass billions of dollars.

Report suspicious activity related to your membership using the Center for Honesty reporting tool at www.centerforhonesty.org. Educate yourself and your colleagues. And remember, your freedom to stand up for yourself and public education is on the line.
Important: Complete the Labor Union Satisfaction Survey to the best of your ability. Fold and return. *All the information you provide is confidential.

YES  NO
☐   ☐ Are you a dues paying union member?
☐   ☐ Would you consider yourself a strong union supporter?
☐   ☐ Are you happy with your workplace conditions?
☐   ☐ Do you consider union representation valuable?
☐   ☐ Do you think union dues are too expensive?
☐   ☐ Do you agree with your union’s spending priorities?
☐   ☐ Do you think the union protects poor performing employees?
☐   ☐ Do your values align with the union’s?
☐   ☐ Do you think member's concerns are really the union’s top priority?
☐   ☐ Other feedback: ____________________________

If you are not satisfied with your union’s performance you can fill out the opt out form inside to cancel your voluntary membership.

0331R00002reh2UQAQ

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1 OLYMPIA, WA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

NJEAPRESIDENT
C/O FREEDOM FOUNDATION
PO BOX 552
OLYMPIA WA 98507-9855

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES