

L.A. Times: More corruption from Stern's appointed officials

On President Damita Davis-Howard's watch, the Los Angeles Times just reported that SEIU Local 1021 funded a nonprofit organization run by a Local 1021 officer. The officer took \$117,000 from the nonprofit as a second salary, directed \$62,000 to a family member, and took another \$10,000 from Local 1021 for sitting on a political committee.

Local 1021 President Damita Davis-Howard has apparently known about these financial dealings since 2006. SEIU President Andy Stern was reportedly made aware of the problem years ago. But neither of them put a stop to it, or took the steps necessary to safeguard members' dues.

SEIU's top official in California, Annelle Grajeda, didn't stop it either. In fact, she just stepped down from all three of her own union jobs after reports that she funneled members' money to a boyfriend.

Why do Stern's appointees think they can get away with it? Because they're not accountable to SEIU members like us. We didn't vote them in, and they think we won't vote them out.

Just like SEIU UHW-W Trustees Dave Regan and Eliseo Medina, Damita Davis-Howard and Annelle Grajeda were directly appointed by Stern, so they're only accountable to him. In Andy Stern's last re-election, 99.9 percent of SEIU members weren't even allowed to vote—and many of the delegates who did vote were hand-picked by appointed local officials like Damita Davis-Howard, Annelle Grajeda, and Dave Regan.

91,000 SEIU members in California are putting a stop to the misuse of our money by unelected union staff. We're joining NUHW, a union by healthcare workers and for healthcare workers, where members can elect our own leaders and see exactly where our money goes.

Los Angeles Times

March 11, 2009

A Bay Area officer of the scandal-clouded Service Employees International Union has collected double salaries, one as a city transit worker and the other from a charity that receives much of its funding from the labor organization and corporate interests, records show.

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"There is just a conflict of interest all over this thing," said Ken Berger, president of Charity Navigator, an online review service. "It looks like something that should be reported to a government entity."

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