

ASK THE PRESIDENT

Q: What is AFSCME Local 209's officer structure?

A: Like any organization and/or business AFSCME Local 209 as well as all AFSCME locals have an internal officer's chain of command. To keep it simple I will breakdown the officer's into two separate categories; **elected officers** and **appointed Stewards**.

Elected Officers - Elected officers are President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Secretary-Treasurer, Executive Board Member, and Trustee. The local's members elect these officer's with the election process. The election process includes nominations, campaigning, voting, and taking the oath. All the elected officers serve a term of two years except the Trustee's, who serve a term of three years. In special situations where an elected officer's position becomes vacant the Executive Board can appoint a union member to fill that vacancy until the next election. Elected officers can also serve as a Chief Steward or Steward.

Appointed Stewards - Appointed are Chief Stewards and Stewards. These positions are appointed by the President but are subject to approval by the Executive Board. Stewards and Chief Stewards serve an indefinite length of term.

Q: What is the Executive Board vs. Executive Board Member?

A: The **Executive Board** is the governing body of the local union, except when membership meetings are in session. The President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Secretary-Treasurer, and Executive Board Members **combined** are the Executive Board. The **Executive Board Member** position exists to include more union officers in the local's governing process. Keep in mind the increased number of officers that serve on the Executive Board translates into more experiences and knowledge the governing body can reflect from. Ideally, the Executive Board is an odd number of officers, therefore offsetting an impasse that might occur when the Executive Board makes decisions. For example: AFSCME Local 209's Executive Board consists of 1-President, 1-Vice-President, 1-Recording Secretary, 1-Secretary-Treasurer, and 7-Executive Board Members totaling 11. With the odd number of 11 an impasse can not occur, so the result is, governing can not become stagnant.

Q: Why are Trustees, Chief Stewards, and Stewards **not included** in the Executive Board?

A: The Trustee's **sole** purpose is to conduct audits on the local's finances. Chief Stewards and Stewards are not elected officers therefore they can not serve on the Executive Board unless they are appointed by the Executive Board to fill a vacant officers position.

Q: Do any of AFSCME Local 209's officers or Stewards receive pay?

A: No! It is considered a labor of love.

Q: What is the qualifications for becoming an Officer or Steward?

A: You must be a member in good standing with AFSCME Local 209 for a minimum of one year before you can be nominated for an elected Officer's position. The only qualification to becoming a Chief Steward or Steward is that you must be a member in good standing with AFSCME Local 209.



Elected Officers

Appointed Stewards

