



Don't Get Hooked by a Scam



The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is warning federal retirees about a new phone scam. An imposter claiming to be an OPM employee is calling federal retirees and saying that a magistrate will prosecute them, their retirement payments are being cut off and they must make an immediate payment. The scammers are very convincing, warns OPM. They may use real names and titles and may know a lot about their targets, including personally-identifiable information. The

scammers may alter the caller ID to make it look like OPM is calling and may also attempt to use email to “phish” for more information. The imposters may leave an “urgent” callback request, but don’t fall for it. Here are some signs of a scam: (1) Call to demand immediate payment; (2) Demand that you pay a debt first before any appeal; (3) Request that you pay using gift cards, prepaid debit or credit cards, wire transfers or PayPal; (4) Request for credit or debit card numbers over the phone

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There’s a new Congress and new opportunity to make sure your members of Congress hear from you—their constituents—on important federal employee issues. Visit the Legislative tab (nteu14.org) to write to your members of Congress and urge them to support such pressing issues as federal pay, staffing and agency resources. Right now you can take action against new, unfairly harsh legislation that would require agencies to fire federal employees who owe even a small tax debt. Don’t sit in silence, go shout...SPEAK OUT!

This Month’s Highlights!

- Retirement Scam!
- Speak Out To Congress
- Capitol Hill Photos
- The Official Time Report
- National Women’s Month



THE TRUTH ABOUT OFFICIAL TIME

Official Time Helps Federal Workers Defend Their Rights at Work AND Save Money for Taxpayers

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has issued a government-wide report on the use of official time. The report includes agency official time data for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, and was last issued in calendar year 2014 with FY 2012 statistics. In FY 2012, the total government-wide official hours reported were 3,439,449, with 2.81 hours being the number of official time hours used per bargaining unit employee on representation matters.

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Retirement Scam Continued...

or by email; (5) Threaten referral to a magistrate, the police or law enforcement. If you get a call you suspect is a scam, hang up, note the date and time of the call and the caller's phone number, and report it to OPM's Office of the Inspector General. And as always, NTEU Chapter 14 wishes to encourage both our retirees and current employees to always speak up on things you are not clear on. We can help so much further if we know so much sooner!

NTEU FOR A STRONGER UNION

Capitol Hill Visit Pictures!



...for more pictures visit nteu14.org

Official Time Continued...

This new report shows a tiny increase - of 0.84 percent- of government-wide official time hours of 3,468,170, and 2.88 hours used per bargaining unit employee. The report includes a government-wide dollar cost of approximately \$162.5 million dollars; in FY 2012 this figure was about \$157.2 million. However, it should be noted that government-wide official time costs remain one tenth of one percent of total federal personnel costs. The report is attached. NTEU Chapter 14 continues to work with our congressional and labor allies to defend official time, and our right to use it to fully represent employees as intended under the law. We will keep you updated on any developments.



WOMEN MAKING HISTORY.

Pop Quiz: Who Was the First Woman Appointed to the Civil Service?

The passage of the Pendleton Act in 1883 did away with the political patronage in federal civil service positions. It stipulated that civil service positions in the federal government should be awarded based on merit and put in place a civil service examination. The law followed the assassination of President James Garfield by a disgruntled job seeker. Patron-

age in federal jobs was the practice at the time. The first exam was given to potential job seekers and Mary F. Hoyt was the second person, and first woman, to be appointed to a federal job. She was given her position because of the score she received on the test. Where in our federal government did she land? Mary Hoyt was a clerk in the Treasury Department where she earned \$900 per year. March is Women's History Month and NTEU is proud to recog-

nize all the pioneering women who stepped up to serve in the government in years past. They helped shape our nation. Women continue to be leaders throughout the government and leaders in our union. At every workplace where NTEU represents federal employees, we are committed to fair pay, fair treatment and workplace flexibilities that help women—and men—succeed. NTEU Chapter 14 salutes all women for this year's National Women's Month!



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