

The Fairness Center

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New York Public Employee Files Federal Lawsuit Against TWU, Local 100

Union officials ignored Wayne Wong's resignation and employer continues taking dues from his paycheck

March 11, 2021, New York, NY – You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave. That's how Wayne Wong, a train operator with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("MTA"), feels about the Transport Workers Union, Local 100 ("TWU"). Mr. Wong resigned from the union in June 2020, but union officials and the MTA refuse to acknowledge his resignation or stop taking dues from his paycheck.

Mr. Wong attempted to resign from the union several times, but union officials kept telling him he had to redo his resignation. Eventually union officials demanded that Mr. Wong, a recent cancer survivor, hand-deliver a resignation letter to the union office in New York City during the coronavirus pandemic. He complied, but union officials still ignored his resignation and MTA officials continue taking dues from his paycheck against his will.

As a result, Mr. Wong filed a federal lawsuit to vindicate his constitutional rights not to be associated with, or to financially support, a union against his will. He is represented by attorneys at the [Fairness Center](#), a nonprofit public interest law firm that offers free legal help to those hurt by public-sector union officials.

Fairness Center President Nathan McGrath released the following statement:

"Our client jumped through hoops to comply with the union's demands, but union officials ignored his resignation and MTA officials continue taking money from his paycheck. Union officials should treat their members with respect, not change the rules to trap them. Mr. Wong should not have to file a federal lawsuit just to disentangle himself from a union he no longer supports."

This case was filed in the Federal District Court in the Eastern District of New York.

Documents

- [Case Page](#)
- [Backgrounder](#)
- [Complaint](#)

Fairness Center attorneys are available for comment. Contact John Sweeney at 609.477.0930, or jrsweeney@fairnesscenter.org to schedule an interview.

The Fairness Center is a nonprofit, public interest law firm offering free legal services to those hurt by public-sector union officials. For more information visit www.FairnessCenter.org