

Petry, Patricia M

From: AFGE Council 222
Subject: New Automated Emergency Alert System



National Council of HUD Locals – Council 222

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-0050

<http://www.afgecouncil222.com>

November 2, 2015

New Automated Emergency Alert System

This morning, you all received a message regarding the new automated emergency alert system. AFGE filed a Demand to Bargain over a year ago with regard to this new system, but again, management has refused to negotiate any protections for HUD employees. AFGE Council 222 has serious concerns about the system. Most importantly, you should be aware that all of the personal information you input into this system will be stored “by the system vendor outside of the HUD network.” We have been provided with no specific information as to the safeguarding of any personal information.

In view of the recent OPM cybersecurity breach, this poses some serious concerns. We believe that management is trying to insulate themselves from any responsibility for any breach resulting in the release of your personal information. When we asked to bargain over the recent cybersecurity breach by OPM, HUD management responded

by saying “it wasn’t us, it was OPM!” If any data breach happens with the vendor of this emergency notification system, we can expect the same result.

The Union also has concerns about the use of the emergency notification system. As an example, giving emergency contact information to management could result in you being told to telework during an emergency, even if it is not feasible. Management could also decide that attendance at a meeting in the office is an “emergency.” Giving management your personal cell phone number, without any parameters or controls agreed to in writing, could have serious impacts. You should think seriously about whether you want to do this. We would like to negotiate some parameters and controls for how information would be used, how it would be stored and what would happen if the system is hacked. Management has refused. As always, the Union will continue to fight for your rights.

Holly Salamido

President, Council 222 of HUD Locals

DO NOT HIT REPLY to send in a comment or question, this mailbox is used to send alerts only.

*To become a member and support our continued good work, complete an SF-1187, and give it to your Local President
Don't know who your Local President is? Go to <http://www.afqecouncil222.com/naboutus.htm> for more information.*

This e:alert is for HUD AFGE bargaining unit employees