

June 27, 2018

U.S. Supreme Court Rules Non-Union Member Government Employees Cannot be Forced to Contribute to Labor Unions

The Supreme Court, in the case of *Janus v. AFSCME*, ruled 5 to 4 that government workers cannot be forced to contribute to unions that represent them in collective bargaining.

The decision reverses a 41-year-old decision that had allowed states to require that public employees pay some fees to unions that represent them, even if the workers chose not to join.

We have learned that public employee unions, such as NYSUT and CSEA, will refund any agency shop fees (fees paid by non-union members for union representation in a collective bargaining unit) mistakenly withdrawn from non-members pay subsequent to today's decision. In the event agency shop fees are deducted from non-union member pay going forward, the refunds will either be paid to the employer for reimbursement to the employees or directly refunded to impacted employees. This will vary by union.

More information on the decision, posted online at the *Albany Times Union* website, can be viewed via the following link:

[U.S. Supreme Court Article on ATU Website](#)

A copy of the U.S. Supreme Court decision can be downloaded via the following link:

[Janus v. AFSCME Decision](#)

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