



UNITED ASSOCIATION

of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of
the United States and Canada

Mark McManus
General President

Patrick H. Kellett
General Secretary-Treasurer

Michael A. Pleasant
Assistant General President

Founded 1889

Letters should
be confined to
one subject

UA Local Union:

601

Subject:

3300 S. 103rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53227
PHONE: (414) 543-0601
TOLL FREE: (888) 543-0601
FAX: (414) 543-7721

November 6, 2019

Kevin Crampton
Construction Certification/Compliance Analyst
Milwaukee County
633 W. Wisconsin, Ste. 902
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Dear Mr. Crampton:

I have been asked to look into a situation involving several of our signatory contractors which has led to the filing of an ineligibility complaint with your office.

At issue, it appears, is whether or not PL Freeman Co. serves as a contractor in the traditional stage of hiring and managing manpower, procuring materials and equipment and installing the same. Or, as is alleged, is PL Freeman Co. merely acting as a pass thru agency?

At this time our dispatch records indicate that we do not have any members of Steamfitters Local 601 employed at PL Freeman Co. However, I did reach out to three members who were employed there within the last several years. They explained that during their employment they worked under the direction and management of contractors who hired PL Freeman Co. as a subcontractor. Further, the tools and equipment they used to install piping systems were provided by the contractor supervising and managing their work. Our members were unsure of who purchased the equipment and materials – such as pipe, fittings and hangers – that they installed. They did tell me that their wages and benefits were paid by PL Freeman Co.

I want to state that I did not speak to all of our members who have been employed by PL Freeman Co. nor to the contractors who have subcontracted work to this firm. That would certainly take more time, and as I was asked to provide you a brief letter on this matter, my investigation was by no means comprehensive. If, during your examination into this complaint I can be of assistance - I would be happy to do so.

Sincerely,

Joel Zielke
Business Manager
Steamfitters Local 601

JZ/cb opeiu #9 afl-cio