



**Interpreters United (WFSE)**

**WA Interpreters**

<p><b>Who Runs the Union?</b></p>	<p>Democratically elected board. Members can nominate themselves or others to run for any position on the Executive Board. (Appendix D AFSCME Constitution)</p>	<p>Juan Medina Bloise has appointed himself &amp; friends leaders until elections are held in 2025. That's right, you will not have a voice in your union until at least 2025. (Art. 4.5)</p>
<p><b>Contract Victories</b></p>	<p>Many, including late cancellation/ no-show reimbursements, hourly minimums, and doubling pay for HCA/social services interpreters.</p>	<p>Has not negotiated a contract.</p>
<p><b>Legislative Victories</b></p>	<p>Passed laws giving HCA/social services interpreters right to unionize (2010); giving L&amp;I interpreters right to unionize (2018); giving HCA, social services &amp; L&amp;I interpreters right to bargain state-funded health insurance (2020); creating good-paying jobs for interpreters in public schools (2022).</p>	<p>Has not passed a piece of legislation.</p>
<p><b>Who Bargains the Contract?</b></p>	<p>L&amp;I interpreters elected by fellow L&amp;I interpreters. Interpreters can nominate themselves or others to run for a position on the bargaining team. The bargaining team is accompanied by a WFSE staff member that specializes in collective bargaining and negotiations.</p>	<p>Juan &amp; friends will sit on the bargaining team to negotiate the 2023-25 contract. No other interpreters will have a say on who bargains the contract or what issues are negotiated until at least 2025. (Art. 5.1)</p>
<p><b>Appointment Distribution</b></p>	<p>Fighting for a system that equally distributes appointments.</p>	<p>Want a "dual system" that makes it easier for a select few interpreters to monopolize appointments.</p>
<p><b>Transparency</b></p>	<p>We believe in transparency and do not hide anything from member interpreters.</p>	<p>What are they trying to hide? Juan's vice president resigned citing corruption.</p>
<p><b>Leadership &amp; Dues Determination</b></p>	<p>Dues are set by members. Local dues can be increased by a vote of the membership. Council dues are set in accordance with the AFSCME Constitution and require approval by delegates who are elected to attend AFSCME's convention every 2 years.</p>	<p>Dues have been set by Juan &amp; friends and can be adjusted by the Board of Directors (Juan &amp; friends until 2025). (Art. 3.4)</p>
<p><b>Funding Source</b></p>	<p>Dues paid by interpreter members and other WFSE members.</p>	<p>Refuses to reveal who is funding them.</p>
<p><b>Staff &amp; Resources</b></p>	<p>100+ professional staff. Endorsed by the 500k workers of the Washington State Labor Council, which includes the Teamsters, SEIU, and many more unions.</p>	<p>0 professional staff. 0 endorsements from the community of organized labor.</p>