United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

General President

ANDREW C. DINKELAKER

MARK D. MEINSTER



February 8, 2024

VIA U.S. MAIL

Dear Mr.

I am in receipt of your December 5, 2023 letter in which you communicated your objection to paying dues or fees to UE Local 256, MIT GSU, because of your Jewish faith. After careful consideration, your objection is denied.

First, no principles, teachings or tenets of Judaism prohibit membership in or the payment of dues or fees to a labor union. Historically, many Jews, including founding UE Director of Organization James Matles, have been members of unions, which continues today.

Secondly, the statements in your letter demonstrate that your objection to paying dues or fees is based on your political views and not your religious belief. For example, you stated, "Due to the UE's support of the Boycott, Divest, and Sanction (BDS) movement, I cannot in good faith contribute financially to an organization that directly undermines my right to a safe and comfortable existence in this world..." This, and other, statements in your letter constitute disagreements with positions taken or policies endorsed by the union.

For the above reasons, your objection to paying union dues or fees is denied.

Sincerely,

Andrew Dinkelaker

UE General Secretary-Treasurer

CC: MIT GSU