



**SOCIAL SECURITY**  
The Deputy Commissioner

January 31, 2013

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

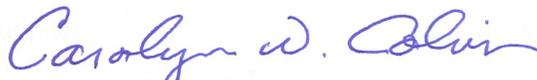
Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to provide you with our agency's fiscal year (FY) 2012 report on official time and expenses for union representational activities. This annual report complies with the requirements in the House Committee on Appropriations' Conference Committee Report 105-205.

In FY 2012, the union representational activities total agency costs were \$14.3 million. As required by our annual appropriations acts, the general fund of the United States Treasury will reimburse the Social Security trust funds, with interest, for the portion of expenses attributable to the trust funds.

I hope you find the enclosed report informative. If there are any questions about this report, your staff may contact Michael Gallagher, our Deputy Commissioner for Budget, Finance and Management, at (410) 965-3148.

Sincerely,

  
Carolyn W. Colvin

Enclosure

**Social Security Administration (SSA) Report on Expenditures for Union Activities**

The Conference Committee Report accompanying the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies’ fiscal year (FY) 1998 appropriations (Report 105-205) addressed the subject of support for union activities. The Committee requested that all departments and agencies report annually on expenditures for union representational activities. Our FY 2012 information is included in the table below:

Official Time for Union Representational Activities (Dollars in Millions)	Fiscal Year 2012
Hours of official time spent on union activities	247,563
Employees who used official time on a part-time basis	1,463
Employees who spent 100% of their time on union activities	17
Dollar Value of Official Time (e.g., salary and benefits)	\$12.5
Travel and Per Diem	\$0.4
Office Space, Telephones, and Supplies	\$1.1
Interest	\$0.1
Arbitration Expenses	\$0.2
Total Expenses	\$14.3

The Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute and SSA’s labor contracts with the American Federation of Government Employees, the National Federation of Federal Employees, the National Treasury Employees’ Union, and the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, obligate the agency to pay for certain costs. These include salaries, travel and per diem expenses, office space, telephone, and arbitration costs for union representational activities conducted on official time. Union representatives cannot use official time for internal union business (such as soliciting membership, conducting elections, or dues collection). Consistent with language in appropriations acts, the general fund of the United States Treasury will reimburse the Social Security trust funds, with interest, for the portion of these expenses attributable to the trust funds.