

FORM 1187 **ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS**

What is a Form 1187? The Form 1187 is a standard OPM form that allows agencies to deduct union dues from federal workers' paychecks. For federal employees who are not represented by a union but want to be, it is also the mechanism that is used to show there is enough interest in having a union to hold a secret-ballot election.

Why should I allow dues to be deducted if I am not currently represented by a union? No dues will be deducted until after the election is concluded and the union is certified.

How much are the dues? There are a few factors that determine your exact amount of dues. NTEU uses a percentage of salary and your local chapter will add a small amount onto that. For federal employees in the highest wage categories, dues generally do not exceed \$30 per pay period, or less than \$2 per day.

I don't want my supervisor to know I support union representation. Can't I sign this form after the union is voted in? Your supervisor — or anyone at your agency — will not see the signed 1187s until after the union has been certified as your exclusive representative. The only people who will see them are NTEU staff and the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

What if I change my mind after signing? If you change your mind before the petition for a secret-ballot election is filed, talk to your NTEU organizer and we will return your signed 1187. If you change your mind at a later date, you can fill out an OPM Form 1188 and cancel your membership during the designated period outlined in your contract.