

PREAMBLE
(As stated on the TWU Website)

The Transport Workers Union of America was founded in 1934 as an industrial union dedicated to the promise that an organization built on trust and equality for all workers cannot be denied. Our motto is "United-Invincible."

TWU is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) and the worldwide International Transport Workers Federation (ITF). We are a trade union representing workers in Mass Transportation, Airline, Railroad, Utility, University, Municipalities, Service and Allied Industries.

Our union operates on three levels – the International Union, Industrial Divisions and Local affiliates. All TWU members belong to Locals formed on the basis of interest and geographic location. The members elect their own Local officers who handle most of their problems. The International Union coordinates the activities of the Divisions and the Locals and assists in negotiations, organizing drives and legislative campaigns. It provides professional, legal, education, research and public relations services to the Locals and Divisions.

The supreme policy-making body of the union is the International Convention, which is held every four years. International officers are elected at the Convention. The International Constitution, which governs all union activities, is reviewed and amended at that time as well.

Between Conventions, the policy-making body of the union is the International Executive Council and an International Executive Board, Division Councils meet at regular intervals to discuss and formulate policies affecting their own particular memberships.

▪ **International Headquarters address:**

501 3rd Street NW 9th Floor
Washington D.C. 20001
Phone: 202-719-2900

The Air Transport Division Veterans Committee was established November 11, 2008 as a viable means to support all military members, defenders of the nation, Veterans and their families of the Air Transport Division. On March 20, 2014 the committee was expanded to include all divisions of the TWU. The committee will now be known as the Transport Workers Union Veterans Committee.

The TWU Veterans Committee is supported by:

Transport Workers Union of America
501 3rd Street NW 9th Floor
Washington D.C. 20001
Phone: 202-719-2900

By-Laws (As amended November 18, 2014)

**TWU VETERANS COMMITTEE
TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA**

ARTICLE I	NAME AND AFFILIATION
ARTICLE II	OBJECTIVES
ARTICLE III	MEMBERSHIP
ARTICLE IV	RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS
ARTICLE V	COMMITTEE MEETINGS
ARTICLE VI	OFFICERS
ARTICLE VII	ELECTIONS
ARTICLE VIII	RECALL OF OFFICER(S)
ARTICLE IX	SUB COMMITTEES
ARTICLE X	AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

**TWU VETERANS COMMITTEE
TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA**

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND AFFILIATION**

- (a) This organization shall be known as the International Veterans Committee, Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, representing the military members, defenders of the nation, Veterans and their families of the TWU. The TWU Veterans committee may also be referred to as the TWUVC.
- (b) This organization shall work jointly with the Transport Workers Union's International Benefits Committee in the interest of advancing the welfare and knowledge of Members of the TWU.

**ARTICLE II
OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this organization shall be:

- (a) To unite in this industrial union, regardless of race, creed, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, nationality or marital status, branch of service, military status of all workers who are interested in representing the military members, defenders of the nation, Veterans and their families.
- (b) To help educate on collective bargaining as it relates to: United Service Members Employment and Reemployment Act (USERRA), Veterans retirement benefits, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA), improvements in conditions, benefits and any other issue(s) affecting Uniformed Service members and their families.
- (c) To promote legislation and engage in activity as it may be deemed necessary or advisable to properly safeguard the economic, security and social welfare of Veterans and their families and to protect the civil rights and liberties of such while perpetuating the tradition and rights of democracy.
- (d) To establish liaisons and work in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), Department of Labor (DOL), Veterans Employment Training Services, and Department of Transportation (DOT).
- (e) To protect the rights of Military members and their families and actively seek justice.

- (f) To encourage and support Military members, defenders of the nation, Veterans and their families and to take an active role in all levels of leadership.
- (g) Act as a liaison between the TWUVC, the company (TWU represented), and the Member concerning all Uniformed Services and related issues.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Any person shall be eligible for membership in the TWUVC as long as they have filed an application for membership in accordance with the Constitution of the Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, and their perspective TWU Local's bylaws.
- (b) Members of the TWUVC shall be TWU members in good standing.
- (c) Appointed by and serve at the will of the International President, a Local's President or Local's Executive Board of their locals.
- (d) A current list of Members of the TWUVC shall be kept on file with the Recording Secretary of the TWUVC.
- (e) There is no fee for membership in the TWUVC.

ARTICLE IV RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS

- (a) No Member(s) shall perform their duties on the job in such a manner as to place an unfair burden on her/his fellow co-workers.
- (b) No Member(s) shall join or participate in any way in any organized group, which purports to make decisions concerning the TWUVC without the authorization of the Committee, its Members or its Officers.
- (c) Members should make a reasonable effort to attend meetings and keep abreast of the current affairs of the TWUVC.
- (d) All Members shall adhere to provisions of these by-laws, the International Constitution And all collective bargaining agreements or working rules of their perspective Locals.

**ARTICLE V
COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- (a) There shall be at least four (4) regular meetings of the TWUVC in any twelve (12) month period, except as otherwise provided for herein. TWUVC Meetings will be held at locations determined by the committee members.
- (b) The Chair and/or TWU International Representative may call Special Meetings of the Committee when deemed necessary or when requested to do so by two-thirds (2/3) of the Committee Members on the Membership roster.
- (c) Committee Meetings notices shall be sent to all TWU Locals and the TWU International Officers at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of meetings except in cases of Special Meetings.
- (d) One member designated from each local will have a voice and vote on all policy issues, while all members in attendance will have a voice on daily business.
- (e) Special Meetings will consist only of the business for which the meeting was called.
- (f) "Robert's Rules of Order Revised" shall govern committee meetings.
- (g) The Chair or her/his designee may invite guest to any regular committee or Special Meeting to make presentations of special interest.
- (h) Committee members may submit written agenda ideas to Chair, Co-Chair and/or the Recording Secretary.

**ARTICLE VI
OFFICERS**

- (a) The elected officers of the TWUVC shall be the Chair, Co-Chair and the Recording Secretary.
- (b) Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the committee members every two (2) years beginning November 11, 2008.
- (c) All committee members in good standing are eligible to be officers.
- (d) The Chair or her/his designee shall attend and preside at all Committee Meetings. The Chair and/or International Representative will call Special Meetings when deemed necessary or when 2/3's of the committee membership requests the Chair to do so. The Chair will work collectively with the International Representative(s) that

may be assigned to the committee and other officers of the committee to conduct the business of the committee.

- (e) The Co-Chair shall attend Committee Meetings and assist the Chair, as the Chair deems necessary. The Co-Chair will work collectively with the International Representative(s) and other officers of the committee to conduct the business of the committee. The Co-Chair shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Chair or by majority vote of the committee.
- (f) The Recording Secretary shall attend Committee Meetings and will assist the Chair, as the Chair deems necessary. The Recording Secretary will be responsible for keeping all meeting notes of the Committee and will work collectively with the International Representative(s) and other officers of the committee to conduct the business of the committee.
- (g) In the event the Chair is unable, for any reason, to complete the term of office, the Co-Chair shall automatically become Chair.
- (h) In all vacancies, except the Chair, an election will be held to fill the position. A majority vote of the committee membership will fill vacant officer positions.

ARTICLE VII ELECTIONS

- (a) A member, to be eligible for nomination and election to any office her/he must, in addition to all other requirements of the International Constitution, meet the membership qualifications.
- (b) Nominations and election of Officers shall be held every two years starting with November 11, 2008 and held at the last scheduled meeting of the second year hereafter.
- (c) The term of office will commensurate upon January 1 after the November election.
- (d) The candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast for each office shall be deemed elected. In the event a tie exists, a revote would determine the winner.
- (e) Any member running unopposed shall be deemed elected to that office.
- (f) All disputes and appeals arising out of the nominations and elections shall be reported to the International Representative. She/he will determine the outcome of the dispute.
- (g) The Chair will appoint an election collection committee that will be responsible for counting the paper ballots.
- (h) The designated representative from each local must be present to nominate and vote.

- (i) Members who are Nominated must have approval from their Local Executive boards to accept the nomination and run for the position he/she was nominated for.
- (j) Each Local has one (1) vote in the election process. The Local Executive Board shall designate the person who will cast the vote for the Local.

**ARTICLE VIII
RECALL OF OFFICER(S)**

- (a) A recall election shall be held if fifty percent (50%) plus one of the registered TWUVC members sign a petition demanding the recall of an officer(s). Such petition must allege that the officer has violated her/his obligations under the Local or International Constitution and specify the obligations, which may have been violated, and the acts or omissions, which constitute the violation. The member's names must be printed and include their Local affiliation with a valid signature. The petition must then be sent via certified mail to the International Representative.
- (b) If a valid petition is filed pursuant to section (a) of this Article, the International Representative will determine the validity of such charges and has the right to proceed within the guidelines of the International Constitution, as she/he deems necessary.

**ARTICLE IX
SUB-COMMITTEES**

- (a) The following sub-committees will be established:
 - a. Communications
 - b. Legislative
 - c. Events
 - d. Benefits
 - e. By-laws
- (b) Sub-committee members will be appointed by majority vote of the committee membership. Each committee will have a chair appointed by the sub-committee.

**ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

- (a) These by-laws may be altered, amended or repealed by a majority vote by the committee membership present at any Special TWUVC membership meeting called for that purpose., provided that the proposed change, amendment or repeal has been submitted to the committee membership at least 30 days prior to the meeting.
- (b) The by-laws shall conform to the provisions and principles of the International Constitution and the policies therein and shall be effective only when approved by the International Administrative Council and the committee membership.
- (c) Amendments to the by-laws shall not become effective until so approved by the International Administrative Council and the committee membership.