



# NEWS

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## **Taxpayers Hail Labor Department's Union Investigations, Enforcement, and Compliance Record**

*--Ordinary Workers Rest Easier Knowing DOL is on the Case--*

**WASHINGTON** — Americans for Tax Reform President Grover Norquist today praised the Department of Labor's Office of Labor Management Standards (OLMS) for its excellent job in protecting the rights of ordinary workers over the past year.

OLMS reported that it doubled its compliance searches of unions to an impressive 518 investigations. It conducted oversight on more than 100 union elections, finding that over a third had violations. Finally, OLMS completed nearly 750 investigations of unions that failed to meet their minimum financial reporting requirements under federal law, a 77% increase over the prior year.

**"Taxpayers are well served by having Secretary Chao's team ensure that ordinary workers have a union worth the dues they are often forced to pay,"** said Norquist.

The compliance investigations turned up such questionable spending priorities as Escada handbags, Ferragamo shoes, Tiffany silverware, artwork, sports tickets, chauffeur services, and even shady hotel room cash transfers.

**"I'm not sure what union leaders are doing passing around Tiffany silverware and hotel cash drops, but I'll bet it isn't representing the workplace grievances of their members,"** continued Norquist. **"Union members across America should be asking the question—what am I paying dues for?"**

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal and state tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [cbutler@atr.org](mailto:cbutler@atr.org).

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