September 16, 1998

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL

James P. Hoffa 2593 Hounds Chase Troy, MI 48098

Hoffa Slate c/o Patrick J. Szymanski, Esq. Baptiste & Wilder 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 500 Washington, DC 20036 Ken Paff Teamsters for a Democratic Union 7435 Michigan Avenue Detroit, MI 48210

Paul Alan Levy, Esq. Public Citizen Litigation Group 1600 20th Street, NW Washington, DC 20009

Re: Election Office Case No. PR-273-TDU-EOH

Gentlemen:

James P. Hoffa, a candidate for general president, and the Hoffa Unity Slate filed a preelection protest pursuant to Article XIV, Section 2(b) of the *Rules for the 1995-1996 IBT International Union Delegate and Officer Election* ("*Rules*") against Teamsters for a Democratic Union ("TDU"), an independent committee. The protester alleged that TDU solicited and accepted money in a fundraiser for the *Convoy Dispatch*, its newsletter, from retired IBT members and their spouses in violation of the *Rules*. The protester requested that the Election Officer thoroughly and completely investigate TDU's fundraising done for the *Convoy Dispatch*.

This case raises the same issues recently decided by the Election Officer in <u>Hoffa</u>, PR-172-TDU-EOH (August 10, 1998), a copy of which is attached to this decision. The Election Officer declines to revisit the same issue and to investigate the fundraising practices of TDU for the *Convoy Dispatch*.

This protest is hereby DENIED.

Any interested party not satisfied with this determination may request a hearing before the Election Appeals Master within one(1) day of receipt of this letter. The parties are reminded that, absent extraordinary circumstances, no party may rely upon evidence that was not James P. Hoffa Hoffa Slate September 16, 1998 Page 2

presented to the Office of the Election Officer in any such appeal. Requests for a hearing shall be made in writing and shall be served on:

Kenneth Conboy, Esq. Latham & Watkins 885 Third Avenue, Suite 1000 New York, NY 10022 Fax: (212) 751-4864

Copies of the request for hearing must be served on the parties listed above as well as upon the Election Officer, 444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 445, Washington, DC 20001, Facsimile (202) 624-3525. A copy of the protest must accompany the request for a hearing.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Cherkasky Election Officer

MGC:mk Enclosure

cc: Kenneth Conboy, Election Appeals Master