

NLG Chicago Statement in Support of Jeff Frank's Nomination for NEC Vice President

NLG Chicago submits this statement in support of our long-time member Jeff Frank's nomination for NEC Vice President.

Jeff has been a stalwart member of the Chicago chapter for decades. He is also a member of the International Committee, a former NLG Chicago Board member, and a current board member of the NLG Chicago Foundation. In that capacity, he has provided sound stewardship of the chapter's finances. Thanks in part to Jeff's leadership with the Foundation, NLG Chicago's finances are in excellent health.

That foundational strength empowers us to maintain our chapter's robust programming, with enough room in the budget to repeatedly rise to the occasion when emergencies and major national protest events arise in our backyard. For instance, in 2024 we were well-positioned financially to handle providing legal observers and legal services for not just the Chicago Democratic National Convention, but also to support the Milwaukee chapter with the Republican National Convention. In addition, last fall we faced one of our biggest challenges in recent memory with the Midway Blitz federal invasion of our city. We were able to purchase PPE for every legal observer who needed it to safely face down federal repression on the front lines. This spring, we were able to answer the call when the Minneapolis chapter requested reinforcements to back up their LO's who were exhausted after months in the streets.

Outside of his work with the Guild, Jeff provides legal and tax representation for non-profit and tax-exempt organizations. He has lent his legal skills to help establish many movement non-profit organizations in Chicago, including helping set up the Chicago Community Bond Fund. When organizations or mutual aid groups come to us with questions about their tax-exempt status or setting up a fiscal sponsorship, we send them to Jeff. His expertise in these arenas will be an invaluable resource to the NEC as it seeks to resolve the current budget crisis.

Jeff is also an activist in his own right. He has worked with Brazil's Landless Workers Movement, MST, since 2002. In 2009, he became National Coordinator of the Friends of the MST. His solidarity efforts have helped raise awareness of and build support for the MST in the US. His work as an international solidarity activist has included support for Palestine and opposing the US's imperialist agenda.

Many members of our chapter consider Jeff to be not just a comrade, but a mentor. He has taken many young movement lawyers under his wing, sharing generously of his time and knowledge. Despite his many commitments, he often makes time to attend NLG Chicago happy hours to connect with new members and law students, and usher in the next generation of Guilddees. The NEC would be lucky to

receive the benefits of Jeff's wisdom, patience, work ethic, and sense of humor, just as so many of our members have.

Jeff is a dedicated Guild member with a wealth of relevant experience who always has and always will prioritize the health and stability of the Guild over anything else. NLG Chicago heartily endorses Jeff's nomination for NEC Vice President.