U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

PRESS RELEASE

Former California State Union Officer Sentenced to Prison for Using Union Credit Card to Pay for Luxury Shopping Spree

November 17, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General

LOS ANGELES, CA - The former secretary treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 2620 was sentenced last week to 18 months in federal prison for her using union issued credit card for personal purchases and paying the credit card bills with union funds.

Sofia Vanessa Herrera, 46, of Vacaville, who served as treasurer for AFSCME Local 2620, was sentenced by United States District Judge Michelle Williams Court, and ordered her to pay $272,481 in restitution and a $10,000 fine.

As a result of the conviction, Herrera is barred for 13 years from serving as an officer, director, employee, or representative of a labor organization; as a labor relations consultant or employer association agent; or in any role with direct collective bargaining responsibilities.

Herrera pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud in April 2026.

AFSCME Local 2620, with offices in Burbank and Sacramento, CA, represents approximately 5,000 health and social services professionals employed by the State of California.

According to the plea agreement, from March 2021 through September 2022, as Local 2620's executive board treasurer, Herrera held a credit card designated for organization expenses. AFSCME's Financial Standards Code prohibited personal use. Instead, Herrera used the credit

card for personal and non-organization expenses, then directed Local 2620 to pay the bills from its operating funds.

Specifically, on May 12, 2022, Herrera used an AFSCME credit card to make purchases at Anthropologie, Tory Burch, Gucci, Tiffany & Co., Louis Vuitton, and Disneyland for her personal benefit and unrelated to union business.

“Herrera didn’t just misuse a credit card. She turned the hard-earned dues of 5,000 public servants into a personal luxury shopping spree at Gucci, Louis Vuitton, and Tiffany. That’s not leadership, that’s theft and betrayal. Steal from American workers, and we will put you in handcuffs,” **said Anthony P. D’Esposito, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Labor.**

To conceal this misuse from AFSCME Local 2620 executive board and trustees, Herrera: (1) repeatedly failed to provide financial records, and (2) falsely claimed the records were not ready for presentation due to inadequate training.

The U.S. Department of Labor Office of Inspector General and the United States Department of Labor Office of Labor Management Standards investigated this matter. Assistant United States Attorney Thi Ho prosecuted this case.

For additional information on DOL OIG, please visit oig.dol.gov. If you suspect wrongdoing involving DOL programs or operations, contact the DOL OIG Hotline at (800) 347-3756 or oig.dol.gov/hotlinecontact.htm.

###

For Media Inquiries:
LaborOIGinfo@oig.dol.gov
(202) 693-7100

Follow Us:

X: @DOLOIG
Instagram: @usdoloig
Facebook: @usdoloig