

Beck Status Instruction Sheet

1. Fill out a resignation letter for Local 47*. Follow the example letter provided. A word document (.doc) can be found in the files section. You will have to be in good standing for your resignation to be processed, meaning any past work dues and delinquent memberships need to be paid in full.
2. Fill out the attached AFM Local 47 Beck Status application. This is the step that is easy to get wrong. The local has decided to use the regular membership application to apply for Beck status. **You must cross out the words “Membership Application” at the top of the page and write “Beck Status” next to it.** If you do not do this, you will essentially be signing up for full membership once again. They will process this as a full membership application and you will have a headache on your hands. You may use the attached Beck Status application here where the **“Membership Application”** has already been struck out and replaced by **“BECK STATUS”**.
3. Call the local before you send and ask what the current Beck Agency fee is. This is the yearly fee (similar to the membership dues) minus money that is used for political union activities. This fee is prorated and is revised down as the year progresses.
4. Make copies of all of the above documents for your records.
5. Write out and sign a check to Local 47, indicating “Beck Agency Fee” in the check memo.
6. Send all of the above documents and check to the local membership office via **CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**. According to lawyers we have spoken to, your Beck Status becomes active immediately upon receipt. This is why you need to have verification of that receipt via Certified Mail or Return Receipt. It may take time for the local to process, remove you from their membership list and take you off the website. This does not affect anything with you being signed up for the FMSMF fund and your participation on any union contract. Being a Beck Status participant entitles you to the same contractual obligations, the same benefits, protections, etc. while on any future union contracts you perform under. However, you can now work on non-union gigs in the open and are immune from AFM bylaws forbidding non-union work.

*** NOTE: This process must be done for EVERY local that you belong to! Applying for Beck status with one local will not give you Beck protection with those other locals.**