December 16, 1998

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

David A. Eckstein 35 E Street, NW, #110 Washington, DC 20001

Tom Sever, Acting General President/Secretary-Treasurer Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters 25 Louisiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

David L. Neigus Acting General Counsel Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters 25 Louisiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

Tom Leedham Campaign Office P.O. Box 15877 Washington, DC 20003

Arthur Z. Schwartz, Esq. Kennedy, Schwartz & Cure 113 University Place New York, NY 10003

Dave Laughton, Director **Brewery Division** Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters 25 Louisiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

Re: Election Office Case No. PR-398-IBT-EOH

Gentlemen:

David Eckstein, a member of Local Union 728 and IBT Director of Field Services, filed a pre-election protst pursuant to Article XIV, Section 2(b) of *the Rules for the 1995-1996 IBT* International Union Delegate and Officer Election ("Rules") against the IBT and Tom Sever, Acting General President and General Secretary-Treasurer. The protester alleges that Mr. Sever had decided to exclude the Field Services Division from meetings scheduled for November 19 and 20, 1998, concerning a contract campaign at Anheuser-Busch. The protester claimed this action was in further retaliation for his candidacy for International Trustee on the Tom Leedham "Rank and File Power" Slate.

The protester now advises the Election Officer that he wishes to withdraw the protest. The Election Officer finds that the withdrawal effectuates the purpose of the *Rules* and permits the protest to be WITHDRAWN.

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 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

cc: Kenneth Conboy, Election Appeals Master