

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW.

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Teamsters Say Goodbye to U.S. Oversight 30 Years After Takeover

In the summer of 1988, Democrats nominated Michael Dukakis as presidential candidate, the Soviet Union competed for the White House, and the U.S. government filed a lawsuit to take over the Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Now, more than 30 years later, that oversight is closing close of an unprecedented effort to root out corruption from unions.

Although immediate effects of the federal takeover opens the door to potentially significant reforms, the union investigates future corruption and disciplinary and election rule changes, although it

will be largely symbolic, it opens the door to potentially significant adjustments beyond. The union will no longer need written

The Detroit News

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Charges Against ex-UAW Boss Inch Union Closer to Federal Oversight

The biggest of the United Auto Workers' many bad apples fell to earth Thursday in the federal crackdown on corruption inside the union.

The government charged former President Gary Jones with embezzling union funds in a racketeering conspiracy and with defrauding the IRS of income taxes. Each of the counts could land the 63-year-old union leader in prison for up to five years.

The charges, though widely anticipated, mark a stunning fall for the one-time leader of a cornerstone of the modern American auto industry — and likely

bring the union closer to a federal takeover that could broom the top layer of leadership, install strict financial oversight and impose direct election of officers, including for the powerful president.

Reforms like those, and more, would shake the union's clubby leadership culture to its core. It would empower the rank-and-file to directly elect (and hold accountable) their leaders, and likely would imperil the powerful "Reuther Administrative Caucus" that effectively has selected leadership "slates" dating back to the end of World War II.

Three decades ago, the Teamsters union was corrupted by the mob. Now, the UAW has been corrupted by its own leadership.

With a track record like that, who would ever want to join the UAW?

Find out more about the UAW's "culture of corruption" at

UAWInvestigation.com