



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
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**Statement by  
IFPTE President Paul Shearon**

**on**

**President Trump's National Television Address**

In his remarks this evening President Trump demonstrated that he is very focused on the border and unfocused when it comes to administering the rest of the federal government. He is responsible for the government shutdown. Our members who work for federal agencies such as NASA, the Department of Justice, NOAA and the EPA are tired of the gimmicks and the politics. We need less "Art of the Deal" and more attention to the management of the federal government.

As the chief executive of the administrative branch, Donald Trump should be deeply concerned about the morale of his employees, the productivity of government agencies, and the ability of the government to attract and retain the best and the brightest. The shutdown is creating real damage.

It's time he focuses on the 800,000 dedicated federal workers going without a paycheck due to his inaction. It's time for the president to treat federal workers as people rather than pawns in a political game.

Paul Shearon is the President of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers. Across the nation, IFPTE represents 80,000 highly-skilled, workers in both the public and private sectors. The union is an affiliate of the AFL-CIO. More information can be found at [www.IFPTE.org](http://www.IFPTE.org).

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