



Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1  
JAN-FEB 2013

# Label Letter

Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

## Unions helping “Superstorm Sandy” victims

Thousands of union members and working families were affected by Hurricane Sandy and are still struggling to recover. In true union solidarity, many local and national unions have established funds to assist members affected by the storm. Here are just a few of the ways our brothers and sisters have found to assist. You can find more information on how you can help on the New York State AFL-CIO’s website at [www.nysaflcio.org/sandy](http://www.nysaflcio.org/sandy).

### TWU

**Transportation Workers Union (TWU) Local 100**, located in New York, has been actively working with the communities affected by the storm. Many of Local 100’s members suffered losses to Hurricane Sandy. In an effort to assist their members Local 100 has created a Sandy relief survey on their website [www.twulocal100.org](http://www.twulocal100.org).

**TWU Local 234** has provided space for the Occupy Sandy N.J. efforts to aid Hurricane victims. The Transport Workers Union in Philadelphia has opened their warehouse space for long-term storage and dispatch needs for the Occupy Sandy N.J. relief efforts.

**NFLPA:** The NFL and its players’ union and the NBA and its players’ union each donated \$1 million to the American Red Cross and other organizations to help in the recovery efforts after Hurricane Sandy.

**AFT:** The American Federation of Teacher (AFT) has set up a disaster relief donation website to help the tens of thousands of AFT members—especially in New York and New Jersey, but also up and down the

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## Largest banks still acting with impunity

Corporations are people, my friend,” said candidate Mitt Romney. Just try to find a jail cell big enough to hold a corporation. “Too big to fail” has allowed the United States’ biggest banks to act without restraint. Now this idea has grown to “too big to indict.”

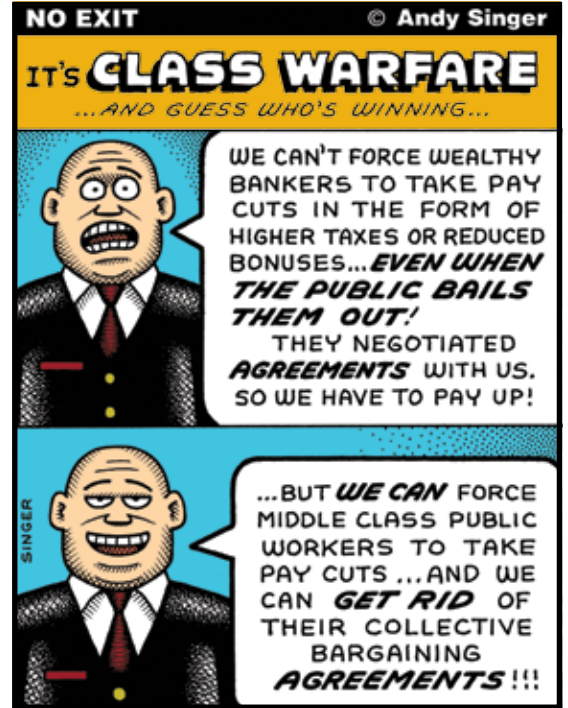
Alan Greenspan, former Fed chair, has said, “If they’re too big to fail, they’re too big.”

What can America do to restrain these big banks? The Justice Dept. has levied fines against banks like HSBC—which was just found to have been laundering millions for Mexican and Columbian drug cartels—but the settlements are equivalent to just weeks of profit for the banks.

Other banks have also paid fines for violating U.S. banking rules: Credit Suisse, \$536 million; Barclays, \$298 million; Lloyd’s, \$350 million; ING, \$619 million; and the Royal Bank of Scotland, \$500 million.

Not one executive, not one employee of these institutions, was criminally convicted. According to the Justice Dept., criminal convictions at HSBC would have led the bank to collapse and thus cause the fragile financial system to collapse as well.

According to David Cardona, a former deputy assistant director at the FBI, securing a criminal prosecution is too difficult. Civil penalties carry a lower burden of proof. Many legal



experts have said the U.S. government faces an uphill battle in prosecuting financial-industry executives. Criminal intent is especially hard to prove in complex financial cases, because prosecutors must convince jurors, beyond a reasonable doubt, that a fraud was intentional.

“You can do real time in jail in America for all kinds of ridiculous offenses,” said Matt Taibbi, financial reporter for Rolling Stone. “Here we have a bank [HSBC] that laundered \$800 million of drug money, and they can’t find a way to put anybody in jail for that. That sends an incredible message, not just to the financial sector but to everybody. It’s an obvious, clear double standard, where one set of people gets to break the rules as much as they want and another set of people can’t break any rules at all without going to jail.”

*continued on page 4 >*

# Do buy: These union-made home appliances

The appliances listed below are made by members of the IUE-CWA and members of the UAW.



## Washers (IUE-CWA)

### Top Load GE models:

WISR106DGWW; ISR309DGWW; WISR409DGWW; SBS137HWW; WNRD2050GWC; WCCD2050JWC; WMCD2050JWC; GCWN2800DWW; GCWN4950DWS; GCWP1800DWW; GCWP1805DCC; GTWP1800DWW; GTWN2800DWW; GTWN4250DWS; GTWN4950DWS; GTWN5250DWW; GTWN5450DWW; GTWN5550DWW; GLWN2800DWS; GHWN4250DWW; GHWN5250DWS; GLWN5550DWW; GIWN3000MWW; GLWN5250DWW; GIWP1000MWW; GIWP2000MWW; GTWP2250DWW; GTWS8655DMC; GTWS8650DWS; GTWS8455DMC; GTWS8450DWS; GHWN8355DMC; GHWN8350DWS; GTWN8250DWS; GTWN7450DWW; GDF520PGDCC

### Top load Hotpoint Models:

HTWP1200DWW; HSWP1000MWW

## Laundry centers, washers and dryers (UAW)

### White-Westinghouse

Tappan  
Gibson

Kelvinator  
Frigidaire

## Water heaters (IUE-CWA & UAW)

### GE Models:

GEH50DEEDSR; GEH50DEEDSC  
Bradford White

## Dishwashers (IUE-CWA)

### GE Models:

ADW1100NWW; ADW1100NBB; GSD2100VBB; GSD2100VWW; GSD2100VCC; GDWF100VWW; GDWF100VBB; GDWF160VSS; GDWT668VSS; GSD2101VWW; GSD2101VBB; GSM2200VWW; GSM2200VBB; GSM2260VSS; GDWT308VWW; GDWT308VBB; GDWT368VSS; GHDT108VWW; GHDT108VBB; GHDT168VSS; GSD4000DBB; GSD4000DWW; GSD4060DSS; GSD3300DBB; GSD3300DWW; GSD3300DCC; GSD3360DSS; GSD3340DSA; GSC3500DBB; GSC3500DWW; GDT550HGDBB; GDT550HGDWW; GDT550HSDSS; GDF510PGDBB; GDF510PGDWW; GDF510PSDSS; GDF510PMDA; GDF520PGDBB; GDF520PGDWW; GDF520PSDSS; GDT530PGDBB; GDT530PGDWW; GDT530PSDSS; GDF540HGDBB; GDF540HGDWW; GDF540HSDSS; GDWF150VES; GDWT358VES; GHDT158VES

### GE Profile:

PDWT200VWW; PDWT200VBB; PDWT280VSS; PDWT300VWW; PDWT300VBB; PDWT302VII; PDWT380VSS; PDWT480VSS; PDWT500VWW; PDWT500VBB; PDWT502VII; PDWT580VSS; PDWT100VWW; PDWT100VBB; PDWT180VSS

### GE Café:

CDWT280VSS; CDWT980VSS

### Hotpoint:

HDA2100VBB; HDA2100VWW; HDA2100VCC; HDA1100NWH; HDA2000VWW; HDA2000VBB; HDA2040VSA; HDA3600DBB; HDA3600DWW; HDA3640DSA; HDA3600DCC

### GE Monogram:

ZBD6900VII; ZBD6920VSS; ZBD7920VSS; ZBD8900VII; ZBD8920VSS

## Refrigerators

### Bottom freezer refrigerator GE:

GFE27GGDBB; GFE27GGDWW; GFE27GSDSS; GFE29HGDBB; GFE29HGDWW; GFE29HSDSS; DFE29JSDSS; DFE29JGDBB; DFE29JGDWW; DFE29JMDES; GFE29HMDES

### Bottom freezer/refrigerator GE Profile:

PFE27KSDSS; PFE29PSDSS

### Side-by-Side Refrigerator GE:

GSS20GEWWW; GSS20GEWBB; GSS20GEWCC; GSH25JGDBB; GSH25JGDCC; GSH25JGDWW; GSL25JGDLS; GSH25JSDSS; GSF25JGDWW; GSF25JGDBB; GSH22JGDWW; GSH22JGDBB; GSL22JGDLS; GSH22JGDCC; GSH22JSDSS; GSS20GSDSS





# How one local supports buying union

Amy Houston, UAW Local 2209

**U**nited Auto Workers Local 2209 has over 3,400 active members, many younger and more technologically savvy than their older union brothers and sisters. Social media, especially Facebook, has really helped the Local's Union Label Committee spread the word about American-made and Union-made items.

"People will always make the union-made choice if they are made aware of it," said Amy Houston, co-chair of the Local's Union Label Committee. "We just help them be more aware of what is union-made out there."

Houston points to an example. "I bought a new pair of union-made, made-in-the-USA Cowboy boots. I simply took a picture of them with my smart phone and uploaded it right to our Local's Facebook page letting people know what I just bought, the brand and where I got them."

Local 2209's private Facebook page has over 900 members.

Spreading the word one item at a time (with a photo) is less intimidating and eas-

ier for people to remember, Houston says.

The Local also uses its Facebook page as a forum for members when they have questions. If someone were looking for new tires, the member would post on the page: "In the market for new tires, does anyone know which tires are union made?" Houston, or the co-chair of the committee, does the research or looks through the information they have on hand and then posts an answer on their page as a response.

"It helps the member who was asking, but also the 900 other members will see it and keep the information in mind as they shop for tires in the future."

In addition, the Local uses its bi-monthly newsletter *Local Voices* to promote buying union. The Union Label Committee includes one or two lists in the newsletter that fit the season (school supplies, Halloween candy, etc.) or a certain category (pet food, baby supplies) of union-made items. When people go to the store, they will remember to buy union.

Recently, the committee started hosting a kickball tournament to attract and engage their younger members.

"It isn't a typical Union Label activity, but its a way to get otherwise uninvolved members to the hall and feeling like they are part of our big union family," said Houston.

At the Local's annual Solidarity Day family picnic, the Union Label committee always raffles off a union-made good. For the past two years, a generous member of the committee has donated four **Detroit Lions** tickets to the raffle. In addition, the Committee prepares a display of everyday items (ranging from aspirin to soup) that are all union made so picnic attendees can get a visual on the actual products, and make the union choice at the grocery. At the end of the day, the display is given away as a door prize.

"We try to keep things fresh and new while promoting union-made products along the way," says Houston. "Social media is so fast and instantaneous, we can get the word out to hundreds of people in mere moments." ■

## Spotlight the Label: SMART

**T**he November 30, 2011, merger of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association (SMWIA) and the United Transportation Union (UTU) created the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART).

The SMWIA, with close to 150,000 members, has represented sheet metal workers in rail shops for over a century. The UTU has been the principal representative of the rail operating crafts and has approximately 58,000 members. The UTU also represents workers in school and public bus industries.

"The UTU brings to SMART proven accomplishments before the National Mediation Board and in dealing with the Railway Labor Act, rail safety and state legislative issues. The SMWIA brings to SMART expert knowledge related to organizing, and extensive training resources and facilities nationwide," UTU International President Mike Futhy Jr. and SMWIA General President Joseph Nigro wrote in a joint letter to members dated Dec. 9. "Combined as SMART, we create a large and powerful voice within the AFL-CIO, and in advancing legislative objectives in Congress and state legislatures." ■



## Walk In My Shoes Alexandria Knox AFM 447-70

**I** am a union musician. I am a member of the American Federation of Musicians Local 447-70.

I am a solo bagpiper performing at those most memorable moments from weddings, to memorial services, to holiday parties.



As a professional musician I spend my days practicing and preparing new music for upcoming performances. I attend a community music school to ensure that I am always learning in my profession.

I love performing and I am so proud to be union. I am active in my local and serve as a delegate with the Savannah Regional Central Labor Council. And I do all this with no sight. That is right, I was born totally visually impaired. I use a computer with software that reads to me what is on screen. ■

# POLITICS IN THE STATES: LABOR'S BIGGEST BATTLES

Throughout the U.S., State and Central Labor Councils are engaging in grassroots battles to fight back against the most egregious of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) attacks.

In California, Proposition 32, which was deemed “the Paycheck Protection Act,” would have restricted union political fundraising by prohibiting use of payroll-deducted funds for political purposes.

Sponsors of the proposition claimed “same use restriction would apply to payroll deductions, if any, by corporations or government contractors,” but the legislation would have “been a death knell for labor in politics in California,” said Steve Smith, communications director for the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

“They claimed that this was ‘campaign finance reform’ to give it wide appeal,” said Smith, “but this was clearly aimed to destroy union power in California.”

Smith said that tens of millions of dollars in out-of-state funding was flowing into California to help pass the measure.

“We couldn’t outspend them,” said Smith. “They could run as many, or more, TV and radio ads. We had to use every means at our disposal—TV, radio, door-to-door conversations, direct mail and telephone contact, but also cutting edge, targeted online advertising.”

Smith said the process to fight back against Prop. 32 began much earlier than with normal legislation, with research and voter education starting in the Spring. The Fed sets benchmarks to get two percent of its membership to volunteer on labor-related political issues, but they were able to surpass their goal on this issue, with well over 40,000 of their members turning out to help. They made door-to-door and telephone contact with nearly five million voters.

The first key concept that any successful campaign needs to understand is targeting.

In fact, the California Federation’s voter identification process began much earlier, said Smith. In 2008, the Federation worked with the Obama campaign to “micro-target” like-minded voters, conducting huge surveys—14,000 voters at a time—that would help them identify nonunion voters whose values jibed with union voters. Those sur-

veys identified nearly four million voters and gave the Federation a working database and opportunities to communicate with these voters in nontraditional ways.

Successful local campaigns not only change policy, but they also build power. The huge effort put forth to beat back Proposition 32 resulted in a huge win for the Federation. The proposition was defeated, voters approved a tax measure and they elected a supermajority of Democrats in both chambers of the state legislature.

“We are calling it the Prop. 32 effect,” said Smith. “With this win, we are now in a position to go on the offensive. We can work on passing measures that will put money back into the pockets of working families, get rid of some of our most egregious corporate tax breaks. We know we won’t win everything, but we’re in a much better position now.”

In 2010, New Hampshire’s state legislature changed hands dramatically. Democrats lost control of both chambers of the state legislature and the state’s Executive Council. Democratic Governor John Lynch held on to his governorship. The change brought with it “a whole host of anti-worker, anti-union attacks,” said New Hampshire State Labor Federation President Mark MacKenzie. “We had some horrendous legislative sessions the past couple of years.”

The Federation effectively fought back efforts to pass right-to-work legislation in 2011. MacKenzie credits his group’s preparation and on-the-ground efforts to beating back the measure.

“We have a volunteer committee that reads the bills at the beginning of every session,” said MacKenzie. “Eight members read 200 or so pieces of legislation. They rank the bills into three tiers. The state fed deals directly with tier one issues like right-to-work, unemployment compensation, etc. Tier two issues go to concerned organizations, but we will lend assistance. Tier three issues are handed off to other organizations completely.”

MacKenzie says it’s often a game of allocation. The organization that has the best resources to deal with an issue will get to take the lead. For example, voter registration and voter I.D. laws will be handed off, but pension reform will be an issue for the Federation.

“Unfortunately, every bill goes to the floor here,” said MacKenzie. “We can’t deal with everything. We’ve got to manage it, but we’ve got an engaged group of volunteers.”

The Federation’s volunteers are a corps of activists from its affiliated local unions, sometimes retirees, but many active employees who are able to get release time from their jobs to help lobby and engage with legislators. MacKenzie stresses that the activists aren’t our local presidents, they’re grassroots members who understand the importance of these issues and are willing to lend a hand.

Methods of communication vary.

“We’ve done everything,” said MacKenzie. “We use Salsa [email blasting], post cards, social networking like Facebook and Twitter, door-to-door communication. We have a plan called basecamp that helps organize and disseminate our information. We delivered thousands of post card petition signatures driven by many different efforts.”

The New Hampshire Federation’s efforts paid off big in 2012. They returned a democratic majority to the State House and Executive Council, elected Democrat Maggie Hassan to replace retiring John Lynch and were just two seats shy of a majority in the State Senate.

MacKenzie is optimistic about their future battles in the state. “We’ll still see the issue of pension reform,” he said. “And we’ll probably see right-to-work rear its ugly head again, but we’re confident, they won’t get very far. They won’t be quite as aggressive with us in the near future.”

The AFL-CIO has federations in every state. They act as umbrella organizations that help coordinate the efforts of their affiliates. They partner with many state and community organizations and conduct local and national campaigns to improve working families’ lives. To find a state or local federation in your area, visit: <http://www.aflcio.org/Get-Involved/Find-a-State-or-Local-AFL-CIO>.



## IAM secures fourth IKEA organizing win

In late fall 2012, the International Association of Machinists (IAM) secured its fourth IKEA manufacturing and warehouse workers organizing victory.

Beginning in 2009, in the right-to-work state of Virginia, organizers began what would be a long and ultimately global campaign to organize workers at the Swedwood factory in Danville. The factory is a subsidiary of the popular furniture chain IKEA.

The more than two-year campaign garnered national and international media attention and, according to Bill Street, IAM Woodworkers Department director, “that global attention was the difference between IKEA pushing back against our efforts or not.” Street says that after the first NLRB election victory in Danville, IKEA adopted its own version of “neutrality.” The company—based in the high union density country of Sweden—faced worldwide pressure to



treat their workers fairly. The original union campaign in Danville was initiated by the global Building and Woodworking International (BWI). BWI began the campaign to organize the factory's workers in 2008 because of complaints that workers injured on the job were routinely fired and denied workers' compensation, as well as other safety and health violations.

IAM and BWI later received the help of all the global union federations including, UNI Global Union, an international coalition made up of more than 900 affiliated unions.

Finally in 2011, IAM won their first election at the Danville Swedwood factory with a vote of 221-69 and a first contract in December.

Since the Danville victory, IAM has won elections in Perryville, Md., Savannah, Ga., and Westhampton, N.J.—and has campaigns underway at the company's Tejon, Calif., and Takoma, Wash., distribution centers. ■

TOO BIG TO..., continued from page 1

If crime pays, as it clearly has in these money laundering schemes, the crime continues. The drug trade and terrorism continue to thrive because the criminal organizations have ways to spend their profits without repercussions.

There is generally no tax revenue generated by laundered money, so the rest of the public has to make up the difference in lost taxes.

In the Libor scandal, the participating banks probably made loads of money while municipalities and other organizations saw their debt ratings decline. It's difficult to pin down, still, how widespread the damage was from the manipulation. What's not difficult is figuring out that no one in the U.S. has suffered a criminal charge from the manipulation.

The Dodd-Frank regulations were put in place in 2010 to regulate the financial industry and include a process for liquidating or breaking up failed big banks known as resolution authority (without resorting to bailouts). It's supposed to subject the large institutions to more stringent oversight and give the government the power to liquidate a bank that has overstepped its bounds.

Former Rep. Barney Frank, who sponsored the Dodd-Frank law, called resolution authority a “death panel” for banks, but still, the 10 largest banks control 54 percent of the deposits in the U.S. No one is using the authority of Dodd-Frank and the largest banks are still acting with impunity.

On July 25 2012, former Citigroup Chairman and CEO Sandy Weill, considered one of the driving forces behind the considerable financial deregulation and “mega-mergers” of the 1990s, surprised financial analysts in Europe and North American by “calling for splitting up the commercial banks from the investment banks. In effect, he says: bring back the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933 which led to half a century, free of financial crises.”

Using the authority of the Dodd-Frank or returning the regulations imposed by Glass-Steagall clearly needs to be a focus of U.S. regulators if they want to rein in any future misdeeds. ■

## SUPERSTORM SANDY, continued from page 1

East Coast—who are struggling to recover from the devastation of Sandy. Donations can be made through the AFT website at <http://www.aft.org/getinvolved/hurricanerelief/index.cfm>.

**SAG-AFTRA** The SAG Foundation has provided initial funding through a \$100,000 contribution that is being matched by the SAG MPPWF and \$50,000 from the AFTRA Foundation for a total available amount of \$250,000. Grants are being administered to SAG-AFTRA members by The Actors Fund through a confidential and streamlined process aimed at aiding members quickly and effectively.

Members are eligible to apply if they are currently active and have paid their dues through the May 2012 billing cycle and can apply by contacting The Actors Fund intake services directly at: Eastern Region, 212.221.7300 ext. 119, [intakeny@actorsfund.org](mailto:intakeny@actorsfund.org).

**IUPAT** The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades has sent over \$60,000 in aid since November to victims of the storm. The aid was administered through the IUPAT Finishing Industries Disaster Relief Fund (FIDR) to members who are beginning the process of rebuilding their lives.

**Union Plus** Union members in areas impacted by Hurricane Sandy, who participate in Union Plus programs may be eligible for financial assistance.

Union Plus Disaster Relief Grants of \$500 are available to help participants in the Union Plus Credit Card, Insurance or Mortgage programs who are facing financial hardship due to the severe storm. The money doesn't have to be repaid. For more information on the grants visit [www.unionplus.org/disaster-relief/sandy-october-2012](http://www.unionplus.org/disaster-relief/sandy-october-2012) ■

# Rank & file government workers: Cannon fodder in the deficit war



**W**hen Grover Norquist talks about “drowning government” he’s really talking about cutting, slashing and eliminating rank and file federal employees, including the half a million or more men and women that are represented by unions like the **American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)** and the **National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE)**, an affiliate of the Machinists.

Long a target of opportunity for the conservative movement, federal workers were drafted into the deficit war against their will in 2010 when Congress imposed a freeze on federal pay that has demoralized the workforce for the past two years. AFGE estimates the wage freeze cost government workers some \$60 billion in foregone wages over the past two years, representing the only tangible “sacrifice” that any segment of the economy has contributed directly to the goal of deficit reduction.


Reducing the salaries of federal workers through an extended pay freeze is a cheap political ploy, AFGE National President J. David Cox Sr. said. Not only does it inflict tremendous damage on the families of these modestly paid workers, more than half of whom are veterans, but it also hits the communities where these

employees live, since they will continue to be unable to afford any kind of economic activity beyond paying for the bare necessities of living.

Ironically, if Congress doesn’t act before federal borrowing authority expires, the Secretary of the Treasury will keep the government’s lights on and stave off default by borrowing money from, you guessed it, pension funds and 401(k) savings set aside for federal workers.

Beyond the lost wages and benefits, federal workers would be among the biggest losers if Congress and the White House don’t come up with an alternative to the automatic cuts (sequestration) that were deferred for 60 days, but not eliminated with the year-end deficit deal. The 2011 Congressional Budget Act imposes automatic cuts unless the White House and Congress come up with an alternative. Half of the \$2.3 trillion reduction under that law would come from the Defense Department and half from civilian agencies. It would be up to individual agencies to devise sequestration plans, but for administrators the quickest route to budget cuts is almost always by cutting personnel through furloughs or layoffs. So, once again, federal workers would become targets of opportunity.

President Obama is threatening a show-down with Congress in the coming months in an effort to end the federal pay freeze with a 0.5% pay raise in his 2013 budget. Congressional Republicans say they will try to block the raise and instead press for an extension of the freeze indefinitely while also imposing deep cuts in retirement benefits for government workers. ■



## Label Letter


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## Living Union Smart Phone app for Android OS Will not be available for Apple

**A**fter months of trying to get Apple to approve the Living Union app for its iPhone and iPad operating systems, the Union Label Department has decided to abandon Apple. The app is available in the GooglePlay store for devices on the Android Operating System.

“Apple kept returning a multitude of reasons why the app didn’t fit their criteria,” said Union Label Dept. President Rich Kline, “but we couldn’t keep watering down our message to meet the different reviewers’ whims. At some point, our message would get lost.”

The Living Union app is a guide to buying union products and services, as well as avoiding products and services that are listed on the AFL-CIO Boycott list. Use this app when shopping to support organized labor and North American jobs.

Android devices fully support the app and, in fact, Union Built PC is retailing a Android-based 9.7 inch dual-core tablet for around \$329. To learn more about the app, visit the GooglePlay store. To learn more about Union Built PC, visit [www.unionbuiltpc.com](http://www.unionbuiltpc.com). ■

## UL&STD NEW BOARD MEMBERS



UL&STD President Rich Kline welcomes new EVP Lorretta Johnson.

**T**he Union Label Department has added new board members. Board members include Mike Linderer, IBB; Lorretta Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer, AFT; Patrick Kellett, Director of Business Development, Communications and Marketing, UA; Salvatore J. Chilia, International Secretary-Treasurer, IBEW; Annie Hill, Secretary-Treasurer, CWA; and Steve Bertelli, International Secretary-Treasurer, BCTGM. ■

# AFL-CIO NATIONAL BOYCOTTS

## NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2012 >>>>>>>>>>



### HOSPITALITY, TRANSPORTATION & TRAVEL

#### SUBMITTED BY UNITE HERE!

- > **GLOBAL**, Hyatt Hotels (\*with exceptions, see box, below)
- > **ANCHORAGE, AK**, Hilton; Sheraton
- > **ARLINGTON, VA**, Hilton, Crystal City; Sheraton Crystal City
- > **BALTIMORE**, Sheraton Baltimore
- > **CHICAGO**, Congress Plaza; Westin Chicago Northwest; Wyndham Suites
- > **IRVINE, CA**, Embassy Suites Irvine
- > **LONG BEACH, CA**, Hilton Long Beach;
- > **LOS ANGELES**, Wilshire Plaza
- > **SACRAMENTO**, Arden West, Hilton Sacramento
- > **SAN DIEGO**, Le Meridien
- > **WASHINGTON, D.C.**, Westin City Center

### HOSPITALITY, TRANSPORTATION & TRAVEL *continued*

#### SUBMITTED BY International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU)

- > **WAIKIKI, HAWAII**, Pacific Beach Hotel, Management: HTH

#### SUBMITTED BY United Steelworkers (USW)

- > **PALERMO PIZZA**

### ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION

#### SUBMITTED BY Communications Workers of America

- > **ECHOSTAR DISHNETWORK** Satellite Television Service

#### SUBMITTED BY International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

- > **SINCLAIR BROADCASTING** 55 stations in 33 U.S. Markets. Go to [www.unionlabel.org](http://www.unionlabel.org) and click "Boycotts" to find the stations in your area

### LEGAL

#### SUBMITTED BY American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees

- > **GLEASON, DUNN, WALSH & O'SHEA**
- > **HARDIN, LAZARUS AND LEWIS, LLC**
- > **MCDONALD, LAMOND, CANZONERI AND HICKERNELL**

### OTHERS

#### SUBMITTED BY Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers & Grain Millers International Union

- > **AMERICAN CRYSTAL SUGAR**
- > **R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.** Camel (cigarettes, snus, orbs, strips and sticks), Pall Mall, Winston, Salem, Doral, Kool, Misty, Capri. Santa Fe Natural Tobacco Co. is a non-union sister company of RJR producing Santa Fe Natural American Spirit cigarettes

**The call to 'Boycott Hyatt' DOES NOT include hotels with current ILWU agreements or those with current UNITE HERE agreements**

**Current ILWU hotels:** Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa and the Grand Hyatt Kauai, which have current collective bargaining agreements with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union.

**Current UNITE HERE! hotels:** Hyatt Hotel (Highway One Monterey); Hyatt Regency Monterey; Hyatt Penn's Landing (Philadelphia); Hyatt Regency Dearborn (Michigan); Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center; Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill; Hyatt Regency Atlanta; Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina; Hyatt Regency on King (Toronto); Park Hyatt Toronto; Hyatt Regency Vancouver; Grand Hyatt New York; Hyatt Rosemont; Hyatt Place San Jose; Andaz 5th Avenue; Andaz Wall Street; Hyatt Place Braintree (Mass.)

### POLICY GUIDELINE FOR ENDORSEMENT OF AFFILIATES' BOYCOTTS

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has developed policy guidelines that regulate how the federation endorses boycotts undertaken by its affiliates. To get AFL-CIO sanction, boycotts should be directed at primary employers.

#### THE GUIDELINES INCLUDE THESE PROVISIONS:

- > All requests to the national AFL-CIO for endorsement must be made by a national or international union
  - > Any affiliated union with a contract in force with the same primary employer will be contacted by the AFL-CIO to determine whether there is an objection to the federation's endorsement.
  - > Affiliates will be asked to provide the AFL-CIO with background information on the dispute in a confidential information survey. Prior to endorsement of the boycott, the executive officers, or their designees, will meet with the national union's officers, or their designees, to discuss the union's strategic plan and timetable for the boycott, or other appropriate tactics, and to discuss the federation's role.
  - > The national or international union initiating the boycott is primarily responsible for all boycott activities; the AFL-CIO will provide supplemental support.
  - > Boycotts will be carried on the AFL-CIO national boycott list for a period of one year, and the endorsement will expire automatically at the end of that time. National and international unions may request one-year extensions of the listings for actions where an organizing or bargaining campaign is actively in place.
- (These guidelines were adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council in August 1996.)*

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# EndNotes

By Rich Kline, *President, UL&STD*

## Trans Pacific Partnership



### NAFTA on steroids

We have warned readers of the *Label Letter* before about the dangers posed by the fast approaching free trade agreement designated the Trans Pacific Partnership, or TPP. A kind of NAFTA on steroids because it could include all of the Pacific Rim nations, including China and Japan, it is a corporate concoction created by their lobbyists in secret with the assistance of nation's like our own blind to the harm done by FTAs or those figuring to come out ahead in the transaction.

In reality only some corporate, financial and political elites will profit from the TPP deal. Oh, yes, we will be told all the same tales of jobs and foreign trade that will ben-

efit Americans: read the NAFTA script for the details.

American as a rule are not buying the sunny predictions anymore. Why should they? NAFTA has caused hundreds of thousands of lost jobs in the US and done enormous harm to Mexico. Only the corporations have benefitted. According to Public Citizen, most Americans want an end to these harmful trade deals. Public opinion polls conducted by the Pew Research Center, Zogby, Greenberg Quinlan Rosner and National Journal reveal that most Americans, regardless of party affiliation or demographics, have had it with these one-sided unfair treaties.

So why are our national leaders pushing for passage of TPP. The role that money plays in our politics has to be one major reason. Much of that money comes from those who would profit from TPP.

How would they profit? Well, it would become easier to off-shore jobs and banks could escape regulation. Buy American policies would be forbidden and our government's purchases would be open to foreign competitors.

TPP would give corporations, already wrongly treated as legal "persons," the

ability to act on a par with nations. Corporations could challenge environmental and health and safety laws as restraints on trade if they were more stringent in one place than another. Our food and drug protections would be lessened.

Access to generic drugs here and especially in less developed nations would be restricted. Pharmaceutical industry lobbyists have succeeded in bolstering protection for drug makers' patents. Consumers here would be exposed to more and more foreign-made medicines without the benefit of our Food and Drug Administration's oversight.

Unfortunately, too much is unknown about TPP. It is being worked up in secret with no participation by labor, civic groups or non-governmental organizations. What is known is deeply disturbing, no less so because it is a big part of the Obama administrations turn to Asia. President Obama must be reminded that the American people don't want to be sold a bunch of empty promises to obscure the harm they will suffer. ■