

Southern California UFCW Members Stand Strong for a Fair Settlement



The NAACP, grocery workers and supporters rally July 27, in Los Angeles, Calif.

Across Southern California, UFCW members at the three largest grocery chains are more united than ever for a fair contract that lets them take care of their families and communities. Workers at Albertsons (owned by Supervalu), Ralphs (owned by Kroger) and Vons (owned by Safeway) have been standing united for a fair settlement since their last contract expired in March, while their bargaining teams have been working through the sometimes difficult process of negotiations.

Members of Locals 135, 324, 770, 1167, 1428 and 1442 have stood together and drawn strong community support as they worked for the best deal possible on wages, pensions and health care. These UFCW members face the same hurdles seen in bargaining across the country – a foundering economy, resistant corporations and competition from non-union employers – but have managed to stand together with activism and courage that union members across the country should seek to emulate.

Most recently, on July 27, thousands of grocery workers and supporters rallied with members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in downtown Los Angeles, Calif., to demand a deal that would be fair to all parties involved in negotiations.

It's been a long road for Southern California grocery workers and their families, but by standing together and taking action UFCW members are making sure that there will be a fair settlement for California grocery workers. To show your support, sign the petition at bit.ly/UFCWSoCal. **OP**

UFCW, Jobs with Justice, Walmart Associates Call for Respect at Walmart

On Friday, August 5, Making Change at Walmart led hundreds of demonstrators in a rally at Walmart's corporate lobbying office in Washington, D.C. to tell the company: "Pay What You Say." The rally was a part of the Jobs with Justice (JwJ) National Conference, and was led, in part, by UFCW members from Locals 5, 21, 400, 881, 1059, 1445 and 1776.

In its push to enter urban communities like Washington, New York City, and Los Angeles, Walmart is claiming to pay an average wage of as much as \$13/hour. However, this hype doesn't match the realities reported by Walmart associates, many of whom are making less than \$10/hour and only getting part time work. So, through the Making Change at Walmart campaign UFCW, Walmart associates, Jobs with Justice conference participants, faith leaders, and community activists took to the streets to demand the company show respect to our communities and its associates by putting its promises in writing.



Lanette Raven, a Walmart associate and member of the Organization United for Respect at Walmart from Seattle, Wash. participates in a rally calling on Walmart to "Pay What You Say."

UFCW International President Joe Hansen addressed the confer-



ence, and said, “When I meet Walmart workers and talk to them about their job, it makes my blood boil to hear them describe the disrespect they face every day at work. It’s not right. And we’re going to change that, together, with your help.”

“The Making the Change at Walmart Campaign is not one where we just hope to put up a good fight for the sake of a good fight,” Hansen continued. “UFCW members and leaders firmly believe that winning real change at Walmart—a voice on the job for Walmart Associates and more responsible practices from the company overall—is both necessary and possible.”

Walmart Associates from across the country also attended the conference and shared their experiences—and their vision for making their company better through the Organization United for Respect at Walmart—with attendees. **OP**

UFCW Members Fight Privatization of Pennsylvania Wine & Spirits Stores

Attacks on public workers are occurring across the country as politicians seek to blame others for their failings to manage state and local governments responsibility. Sometimes, as UFCW members who work in the private sector - either in retail or in food processing - it’s hard to see the connection between the fight for public employees’ rights and our contracts in our workplaces.

Not in Pennsylvania. Across that state, more than 4,000 members of Locals 23, 27 and 1776 work retail jobs in the state-owned Pennsylvania Wine & Spirits Stores. These good jobs are the subject of the latest vicious attack by big corporations and their political allies in the name of “budget-cutting.”

In fact, more than \$500,000,000 in revenue is brought into state coffers every year by these hard-working UFCW members, who do their jobs so well that Pennsylvania is considered a nationwide leader in keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors and intoxicated people.

“The best scientific evidence proves what we already know – our UFCW members do a better job in managing the sale of wine and spirits than the private sector,” said Local 1776 President Wendell Young IV. “This latest attempt to privatize

[the Pennsylvania Wine & Spirits Stores] is the first evidence here in Pennsylvania of the kind of virulent attacks on public sector workers that are sweeping our nation.”

To learn more and get involved go to Facebook.com/UFCW. PA.WineandSpirits.Council. **OP**

ABC Contest--Don't Forget!



Today, as the Wisconsin recall elections take place, we’re all reminded of how important fighting for pro-worker candidates can be. Join us in the fight to defend workers’ rights and benefits in Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana and nationwide, as the Active Ballot Club (ABC) committee leads the charge to elect pro-worker candidates.

Push back against corporate greed and anti-worker legislation, and your union could win big. From now until November 1, 2011, UFCW members are eligible to win a \$500 gift card and/or a prize for their local union, just by signing up to contribute \$1 a week--or by upgrading their contribution to that level. And everybody who signs up or upgrades to \$1 will be eligible to win one of twenty-four \$500 American Express gift cards. Go to VoteUFCW.org and click the “Active Ballot Club” button for more information, or contact the UFCW Legislative and Political Action Department for details. **OP**