



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**UFCW LOCAL 400 STANDS 40,000 STRONG IN SOLIDARITY WITH CWA
VERIZON WORKERS IN THEIR FIGHT FOR A NEW CONTRACT**

WHO: United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 400 members

WHAT: Lend support for CWA members in their fight for a new contract

Landover, Md.—UFCW Local 400 stands in Solidarity with Communications of America members in their fight with Verizon Communications for a new contract. For months, CWA members have engaged with Verizon as they attempt to negotiate a contract that satisfies both parties. Their deadline to complete negotiations is November 2.

About 45,000 workers from CWA and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) were on strike for 19 days, beginning August 6, 2011, before the company agreed to sit back down at the bargaining table.

During the strike, Local 400 members walked the picket lines with CWA members in Ashburn and Richmond, Va. and will do so again if needed.

Local 400 will do whatever it takes to help CWA win at the bargaining table, whether it's marching on picket lines, mobilizing members for leafleting, attending media events, reaching out to public officials and community allies, or anything else that is necessary.

"We make a commitment out of our belief that we must be ONE labor movement, not a movement of many unions," wrote Local 400 President Tom McNutt in a letter to CWA International President Larry Cohen. "The more we fight together in unity, the stronger we will be and the more our members can accomplish."

The workers affected by this new contract include field technicians, service representatives, operators and other support personnel. CWA says that Verizon wants over 100 concessions, which include workers losing sick days, paid vacation time, holidays, deep cuts to active employee and retiree healthcare as well as pensions. Meanwhile, Verizon has generated \$6 billion in profits while paying top executives \$258 million in the past four years. Verizon Wireless is non-union while Verizon Communications is the unionized landline branch of the company.

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The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 400 represents more than 35,000 workers from police officers to grocery clerks and nurses to meatpackers. Local 400 strives to help workers obtain and hold onto better paychecks, job security, decent fringe benefits and justice on the job. Local 400 attains these goals through the support, unity, and involvement of members, the community and political involvement.

www.ufcw400.org.