



Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO

Urgent Appeal for Support  
Workers Locked Out & Honoring Picket Lines

July 3, 2007

Dear Friend of Labor:

Yesterday, when Waste Management locked out 500 members of Teamsters Local 70 in Alameda County, the company also told 80 members of Machinists Local 1546 and 300 members of ILWU Warehouse Local 6 that they "had the right" to cross a picket line in the case of a strike or lockout.

Let's be clear: there is no strike, there is only a lockout.

Let's be even clearer: We seriously doubt that any member of the Machinists or ILWU would cross a picketline under any circumstances.

While we work to organize political and community support, the Teamster and Machinist hardship funds will gear up, and those members may be eligible for unemployment benefits given the egregious conduct of the employer.

**However, the lowest-paid employees – the recycling, clerical and landfill workers in ILWU 6 – will not qualify for unemployment and are not eligible for strike fund benefits.** Under their current contract, they earn \$11-14 an hour.

Teamster and Machinist members, recognizing this hardship, offered to pass the hat to support members who honor lockout picketlines. On the day members were threatened with permanent replacement by a greedy multinational employer, they offered a collection to support their brothers and sisters.

We hope we can turn to you for the same assistance. The Labor Council Hardship Fund will be available to union members impacted by the Waste Management lockout, but funds are low. **At this time, it is unclear how long the company plans to maintain the lockout.** We know that the solidarity of union members is key to our eventual win.

The ILWU International has started the fund with a significant contribution. Will you sponsor a worker who honors the picket line?

- \$350 will replace one week's take-home pay for one worker;
- \$1,000 will help pay rent or mortgage for a month;
- \$5,000 makes you a hero.

A separate notice will inform you of picket locations and ask for your ongoing support. Thank you in advance for your solidarity.

In unity,

Sharon Cornu, Executive Secretary-Treasurer    Dorothy Fortier, President

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At Waste Management

**YES! Workers can count on me/us for solidarity during this lockout.**

**1. I will join picketlines to demonstrate community support for locked-out workers.**

- Oakland HQ**– 172 98<sup>th</sup> Av.
- San Leandro** – Davis St.
- Livermore** - Altamont Station, 10840 Altamont Pass Rd.

The best day and time for my union or organization is:

\_\_\_Monday am    \_\_\_Tuesday am    \_\_\_Weds am    \_\_\_Thurs. am    \_\_\_Friday am  
\_\_\_Monday pm    \_\_\_Tuesday pm    \_\_\_Weds pm    \_\_\_Thurs. pm    \_\_\_Friday pm

**2. Enclosed is my contribution for the following amount:**

- \$350 will replace one week's take-home pay for one worker;
- \$1,000 will help pay rent or mortgage for a month;
- \$5,000 Hero

Make check payable to **Alameda Labor Council Hardship Fund**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Eve Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_