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July 2, 2014

Ronald L. Sargent, CEO  
Staples, Inc.  
500 Staples Drive  
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Mr. Sargent:

We are writing to inform you that AFSCME has endorsed a boycott of Staples. We are asking our members, friends, family members and colleagues to take their business elsewhere.

We are taking this action because of our concerns about Staples' no-bid deal with the U.S. Postal Service, which established postal counters in more than 80 Staples stores – staffed with Staples employees rather than with employees of the Postal Service.

Our union, nationally and locally, has done a substantial amount of business at Staples. The American people have a right to Post Offices staffed by highly-trained, uniformed postal employees – employees who have taken an oath to safeguard the privacy and security of their mail.

We also object, in principle, to short-sighted business arrangements that replace good, living-wage jobs with high-turnover, low-wage jobs, as the USPS – Staples deal does.

We note that since the deal with Staples was announced, the USPS has reduced the hours of service in more than two dozen San Francisco-area Post Offices, all of which are near a Staples store with a postal counter. It is apparent that more cuts in postal services are planned, along with the eventual closing of U.S. Post Offices.

As you have made known, Staples itself is experiencing a decline in sales and has plans to close at least 225 stores by the end of 2015. We are concerned that in pursuing its arrangement with Staples, the USPS will leave many customers without access to any nearby Post Office.

**American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO**

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Only the U.S. Postal Service can accomplish the mission it has carried out with distinction for more than two centuries: Providing universal mail service to all Americans, in every corner of the county.

We call on you to either arrange with USPS to have USPS employees staff the postal counters in your stores – or, discontinue the program.



LAURA REYES  
Secretary-Treasurer

In solidarity,



LEE SAUNDERS  
President

LS:pbb