

PHILADELPHIA COUNCIL AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

PATRICK EIDING
President

LIZ McELROY
Secretary-Treasurer

KEN WASHINGTON
Recording Secretary



DON MCGROGAN
Chairman
Board of Trustees

NICOLE FULLER
Community
Services Liaison

JOSEPH ASHDALE
MICHAEL BARNES
JOE BASELICE
WILLIE BROWN
BOISE BUTLER
TERRY DITTES
JOHN J. DOUGHERTY
PATRICIA EAKIN
LYNNE FOX
ANTHONY GALLAGHER
JAMES GARDLER
PATRICK GILLESPIE

Vice Presidents
DANIEL GRACE
ROBERT HEENAN
KEVIN HOLMES
GIVEN INEY
JERRY JORDAN
JOHN KANE
ARLENE KEMPIN
WAYNE MUMFORDMAN
GARY MASINO
HERMAN "PEYE" MATTHEWS
C. ROBERT McDEVITT
HANK MCKAY

HENRY NICHOLAS
C. A. O'BRIEN
STEVE PETTIT
JIM SAVAGE
JOSEPH SCHOLLE
SAM STATEN, JR.
MICHAEL TANGRADI
FRED WRIGHT
ROSSELIN WUCHINICH
WENDELL W. YOUNG, IV
RANDY D. ZEBIN

Trustees
CATHERINE BROWN
ED SHAW
CHRIS WOODS

Sergeant-at-Arms
DENNIS PAGLIOTTI

22 South 22nd Street, 2nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel: 215-665-9800
Fax: 215-665-1973
Email: council@philaflcio.org

June 30, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A few weeks ago AFL-CIO Secretary –Treasurer Liz Shuler informed us that our Federation had endorsed the American Postal Workers Union's boycott of Staples, Inc. Secretary-Treasurer Shuler asked all bodies of the AFL-CIO and our affiliates to endorse and participate in the boycott. The Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO subsequently drafted a *Resolution of endorsement of APWU and AFL-CIO national boycott of Staples, Inc.*, which was passed unanimously by the Executive Board and the Delegates of the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO. A copy of that resolution is attached.

Please note that the boycott of Staples and Staples-branded products is now an official policy of the labor movement. I urge any affiliates who regularly do business with Staples to take part in this boycott by suspending all business with Staples, and by telling Staples that you are boycotting their business because of their non-union "postal counters".

Please contact our Mobilization Coordinator, Nick Alpers, to report on your communications to and from Staples about your participation in the boycott. You can reach Nick at 215-665-9800 or Nalpers@philaflcio.org

In Solidarity,


Patrick Eiding
President



Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO

Resolution of endorsement of APWU and AFL-CIO national boycott of Staples, Inc.

WHEREAS: Staples has opened "postal counters" at 82 Staples stores nationwide, offering many US Post Office services and products; and

WHEREAS: Staples' "postal counters" are staffed by non-union, low-paid Staples employees instead of uniformed, well-trained, unionized Postal Service employees; and

WHEREAS: The agreement between Staples and the USPS allows Staples to expand these "postal counters" to 1,500 locations nationwide; and

WHEREAS: The outsourcing of jobs and privatization of public services threatens not only working families' standards of living and the unions to which they belong, but in this instance also threatens mail services provided by USPS; and

WHEREAS: On May 29, 2014, the AFL-CIO officially announced its endorsement of the national boycott of Staples initiated by the American Postal Workers Union; and

WHEREAS: Staples' "postal counter" scheme poses a threat to the well-being of thousands of working people in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS: It was in Philadelphia in 1775 that the Second Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin as our nation's first Postmaster General, making Philadelphia the home of the United States Postal Service;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions and organizations hereby endorse the APWU's national boycott of Staples and Staples-branded products, and encourages our affiliates who have done business with Staples to inform the company that this boycott is their reason for no longer patronizing Staples.

Approved unanimously June 11, 2014