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IN
1893

SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO



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Walter L. Johnson

November 3, 2005

Militant Fighting Fund
c/o Political Rights Defense Fund
P.O. Box 761 Church St. Station
New York, NY 10007

Brothers & Sisters,

The San Francisco Labor Council supports the United Mine Workers in their fight to obtain union recognition for the workers at the CO-OP mine in Utah. The Council also denounces the illegal firing of union supporters, especially the tactics of terminating the 30 Mexican born workers for allegedly failing to produce valid work documents.

The San Francisco Labor Council supports the right of all workers, including immigrant workers, to organize and bargain collectively. We also stand in defense of the First Amendment's right to the freedom of the press to communicate and report issues of concern to working men and women.

In Solidarity,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

cc: Gerardo Sanchez
916 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94112

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United Food & Commercial Workers Union

C. James Lowthers,
President

Chartered by:
UFCW [REDACTED]

Thomas P. McNutt,
Secretary-Treasurer

Serving Members in MD, VA, DC, WV, TN, NC, KY, OH

January 4, 2006

Militant Fighting Fund
P.O. Box 520994
Salt Lake city, Utah 84152-0994

To Whom It May Concern:

As President of United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 400, I commend your efforts to stand strong against the C.W. Mining Company's attack on labor rights. All too often large businesses attempt to intimidate working men and women, and through Solidarity and perseverance, we must let this company know that its actions will not be tolerated.

On behalf of the over 40,000 members of UFCW Local 400 working in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio and the District of Columbia, I hereby ask that our Union's name be included with those groups standing in support of the United Mine Workers of America and the Co-Op miners fighting for their union in Salt Lake City, Utah.

In Solidarity,

C. James Lowthers
President

CJL/fam

cc: John Hawkins

Adelante con LCLAA

L.A. Chapter

LABOR COUNCIL FOR LATIN AMERICAN ADVANCEMENT (AFL-CIO)

30 Years of Service

2130 West James M. Wood Blvd. • Los Angeles, CA 90006 • (213) 427-9044 • Fax (213) 427-9056

May 31, 2005

Militant Fighting Fund
c/o Political Rights Defense Fund
P. O. Box 761, Church Street Station
New York, New York 10007

Brothers and Sisters,

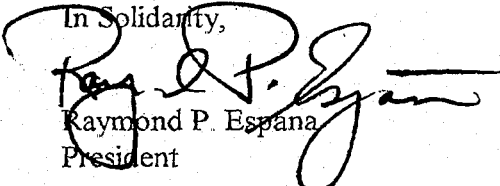
I recently learned of the lawsuit the C. W. Mining Company, along with company-run union, has brought against the miners and their supporters, including Utah's main newspapers the Salt Lake Tribune and the Desert Morning News, and the Militant newspaper, with joining in a campaign of defamation.

The Los Angeles Chapter of LCLAA has always supported the rights of working people everywhere, especially our abused immigrant brothers and sisters. LCLAA believes in the right of all workers to organize and bargain collectively. We believe in the First Amendment of the Constitution and the freedom of the press. These basic rights are the heart of American working society.

LCLAA strongly opposes the lawsuit brought by C. W. Mining against the miners at Co-OP Mining and the supporting newspapers. The lawsuit is nothing more than a blatant attack on the freedoms that form our American way of life. The fight to defend the Salt Lake Tribune, the Desert Morning News and the Militant is a necessary and important battle to protect every American's right to freedom of speech, the freedom of the press and the right to organize.

LCLAA remains ready to stand with our brothers and sisters in fighting this attempt to harass and intimidate workers and their supporters in the press.

In Solidarity,



Raymond P. Espana
President

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RAYMOND P. ESPAÑA
NALC - Branch #24

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Plumbers Union
(Retired)

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Executive Director

May 11, 2005

Political Rights Defense Fund
Box 761 Church Street Station
New York, NY 10007

RE: Lawsuit Over Co-Op Miners Fight to Win a Union

Dear Friends:

I write on behalf of this bar association to extend the Socialist Workers Party and *The Militant* newspaper our support in their defense of their political rights in the face of a lawsuit brought against them by C.W. Mining.

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The notion that a corporation has been "defamed" merely because the press decides to report on a labor dispute between the corporation and its workers and include statements made by either side to the dispute, warps the legal concept of "defamation" beyond recognition. If freedom of the press still means anything in this country surely it means that a political party and a newspaper, (in this case, *The Militant*), as well as any other newspaper reporting on a labor dispute, is free to do so without the threat of having to defend a costly, frivolous lawsuit.

The Militant newspaper is obviously right to characterize the corporation's lawsuit as a naked attempt to silence, or at least alter, the way in which the press are covering the dispute. We salute *The Militant* for its statement that it, "will not be intimidated or censored from covering this fight." Knowing the *The Militant* newspaper as I do, I would have expected no less.

Yours in Solidarity,


James Lafferty
Executive Director



An organization of lawyers, law students, legal workers and jailhouse lawyers...in the service of the people,
to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests.

Henry Cooper
Host of the Radio Program “Proyecto Latinoamericano”

IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE MILITANT

The Law Suit against The Militant for informing regularly on the struggle of the Utah miners from Co-Op, is nothing but another attempt from the Bosses to intimidate our brothers and deter them from defending their right to organize and to fight for better working conditions.

Through this Law Suit the attack turns over those that have been in solidarity with the miners during this struggle and on the freedom of speech used to defend workers rights.

It is an outrage to let this happen without raising our voices in solidarity with THE MILITANT and the Socialist Workers Party, and defend their right for a FREE PRESS.

I support the right of THE MILITANT and the Socialist Workers Party to continue their work informing accurately and regularly about all the struggles of our brothers and sisters.

I stand by this newspaper and this party in their right to exist and inform America and the world of what is going on with all this workers movements and their history.

I call everybody that stands for the workers rights to step forward and support THE MILITANT in this fight against the Big Money of the Bosses and their Lawyers.

Solidarity in the Struggle.

Henry Cooper

Host of the Radio Program “Proyecto Latinoamericano”

KPFT Houston 90.1 FM/ 89.5 FM Galveston

PACIFICA RADIO

Randy Jasper
member, Family Farm Defenders

To Judge Dee Benson

All the Militant did was report the truth. I see no reason for a lawsuit. Somebody in this country needs to tell the truth especially, to hear about a strike.

The Militant is about the only paper doing this. The lawsuit has no basis. Anything I read in this paper sounds like the truth to me. So I would urge you to dismiss this case.

Sincerely,
Randy Jasper
member, Family Farm Defenders
Dairy and grain farmer
Muscodia, Wisconsin

FIRST AMENDMENT FOUNDATION

3321-12th Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017, 202.529.4225, 202.526.4611 fax, knaga@bellatlantic.net

June 21, 2005

Militant Fighting Fund
P.O. Box 520994
Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0994

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and Education Director
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Executive Director

To the Militant Fighting Fund:

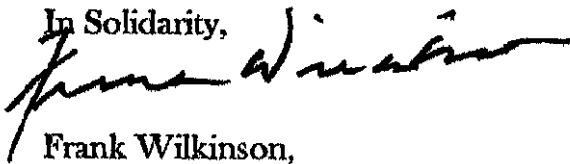
I have just learned about your important free speech fight in Utah.

As a defender of civil rights for more than six decades, I extend my support to the *Militant* newspaper and the Socialist Workers Party for defending free speech and freedom of the press. The C.W. Mining lawsuit is a blatant attempt to chill free speech and harass supporters of the miners. Charges against the *Salt Lake Tribune* and the *Deseret Morning News* should also be dismissed.

Such attacks on our constitutional rights should not be tolerated. At stake is a newspaper's right to report on an important union organizing effort and the right of the miners and their supporters to speak their mind without fear of retribution.

C.W. Mining's lawsuit should be opposed by all democratically-minded people. It is a serious threat to the First Amendment and to the rights of labor.

In Solidarity,



Frank Wilkinson,
Executive Director Emeritus, First Amendment Foundation, and
National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL)

Message from Keith Greip
member, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 538

As a person who went on strike for 11 months against Tyson Foods I've learned about tactics that companies can use to try to discredit union members fighting for their jobs and livelihood. As far as the Militant newspaper it had nothing but favorable articles for our cause. I don't see the Militant as slanderous. It told the truth as told by members of our union.

I feel that newspapers have the right to report news. In some instances it may be one-sided, but that is freedom of the press.

The lawsuit should be dismissed on that basis alone. If not, others will face similar types of lawsuits. It would surely infringe on the way reporting is done in the U.S. It is one of the freedoms that our forefathers fought for and should not be given up.

Sincerely,
Keith Greip, member,
United Food and Commercial Workers Local 538
Jefferson, Wisconsin



June 17, 2005

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Militant Fighting Fund
P O Box 520994
Salt Lake City, Utah 84152

Dear Militant Fighting Fund:

I endorse the Militant Fighting Fund. As a teacher, union activist, and an officer within my union I realize the importance of democracy. Honest reporting, the right to information, and the right to read are basic rights covered by the United States Bill of Rights.

It is beyond my comprehension how CW Mining, or any corporation would try to hinder the basic right to know. The struggle to defend the Salt Lake Tribune, the Deseret News, and the Militant is part of the larger struggle to defend democracy, and the right to organize.

I realize that the Co-op Miners are fighting for their democratic right to organize into a union, and they should have this very basic right to vote on union representation.

The union movement can only be as strong as its weakest links, and your support of the right to organize should not be obstructed by the undemocratic demands of others.

In unity,

Alberto Valdivia

Gordon Flett
shop steward, Communications, Energy & Paperworkers
Local 2000 -- Vancouver, B.C. Canada

The Militant must be commended for its unrelenting support of the Co-Op Miners. The masthead says it all: A Socialist Newsweekly Published in the interests of Working People. Our media, not theirs; and for those of us interested in workers' struggles, the Militant is simply the finest newspaper on the planet, bar none.

Gordon Flett
July 5, 2005



CARECEN

CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER / CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS

July 1, 2005

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Executive Director

*Affiliations listed
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**Militant Fighting Fund
c/o Political Rights Defense Fund
P.O. Box 761, Church Street Station
New York, NY 10007**

Dear Colleagues:

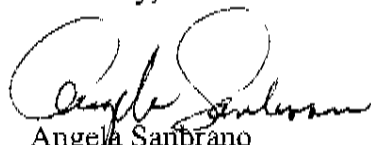
CARECEN has learned of the lawsuit the C.W. Mining Company and its union has brought against the miners and their supporters, including the Salt Lake Tribune and the Desert Morning News, and the Militant Newspaper, with joining in a campaign of defamation.

CARECEN, since its inception in 1983, has always supported the rights of working people everywhere, especially immigrants. CARECEN, with more than 50,000 clients served in 2004, strongly advocates the right of all workers to organize and bargain collectively in good faith. We believe in the First Amendment of the Constitution and the freedom of the press. These rights are the core of our American values.

We oppose the lawsuit brought by CW Mining against the miners at Co-Op Mining and the newspapers involved in the dissemination of information pertaining to this case. This lawsuit seems to be a blatant attempt at silencing the voices that defend the miners' actions. As a non-profit organization that works to empower community members, we believe it is necessary for every American to exercise their right to freedom of speech, freedom to organize, and freedom of the press.

CARECEN stands together with those fighting this attempt to intimidate the workers and their supporters in the press. We urge the C.W. Mining Company to cease their action immediately.

Sincerely,


Angela Sanbrano
Executive Director