



Chartered by United Food & Commercial Workers International Union  
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**KIM C. CORDOVA**  
President

**KEVIN R. SCHNEIDER**  
Secretary-Treasurer

April 3, 2020

Dear UFCW Local 7 Sisters and Brothers Working at JBS:

Due to the Governor's Shelter In Order, we have been directed that we had to close all of our offices throughout the state and have been advised that we cannot service inside the plant. I have made repeated pleas to the Governor to ask for an exception to the order, but have been denied. I have a call with the Governor's office today at 3:00 pm to address the issues at the plant, including allowing our Union Representatives the ability to work on site. However, we are still working and we continue to work around the clock to address all of our members' issues.

We have had multiple conversations with the company demanding paid leave for anyone with COVID-19 like symptoms or are at risk per the CDC guidelines, providing additional PPE, plexiglass barriers to help with social distancing, hazard pay, and a list of employees who have been confirmed positive with the Coronavirus including the area in which they worked. I have demanded that anyone who worked in the area with an employee who was confirmed positive be quarantined with full pay. We are demanding paid sick leave. We do not agree with the short-term disability pay for those that have symptoms. A worker should be paid 100% of their normal hourly wage rate.

We understand over 800 workers a day since Monday have called off. The company is refusing to provide us the reasons for the call offs.

We have filed safety grievances, a complaint with OSHA, and charges with the National Labor Relations Board. A special COVID-19 Hardship Fund has been established to help our membership.

I ask that you contact your Union Representative or our office with any information you can provide regarding anyone who may be out sick or hospitalized. The company has refused to provide us this information.

We will continue to keep you updated as we work through this pandemic situation. Please continue to reach out to your Union Representatives.

In Solidarity,

Kim C. Cordova  
UFCW Local 7 President  
UFCW International Vice President