



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Marcela Salazar | msalazar@skdknick.com | 202-567-1163

Bridget Bartol | bbartol@skdknick.com | 954-594-0689

Twitter: [@UFCW_7](https://twitter.com/UFCW_7)

UNION LOSES ANOTHER MEMBER TO COVID-19 FROM JBS PLANT IN GREELEY, COLORADO

DENVER – It is with a heavy heart that we announce the loss of another fallen hero, Tin Aye, making this the eighth known death at the JBS Greeley plant. Ms. Aye had been employed at the JBS facility for over a decade and was beloved by her family, colleagues and community. She became a grandmother on March 28th, when her daughter had to have an emergency C-Section after contracting COVID-19 from Ms. Aye. On March 29th, Ms. Aye was sent to the hospital and put on a ventilator, never to get off of it. Her son is a Lance Corporal in the U.S. Marines and currently deployed.

JBS's initial response to COVID-19 was late and inadequate and we have repeatedly called on JBS and government authorities to do everything in their power to implement the necessary health and safety actions needed to protect Local 7's 3,000 essential workers at the Greeley facility. UFCW Local 7 asks that the federal government make the OSHA guidelines into law so that they are enforceable, verifiable and strong. The union continues to demand specific health and safety actions necessary to protect these essential workers and the nation's food supply chain such as access to on-site daily testing for all workers, both symptomatic and asymptomatic, increased availability of high-quality PPE and implementation of paid sick leave.

Kim Cordova, President of [UFCW Local 7](#), which represents 3,000 workers at the JBS meat processing plant in Greeley, Colorado, issued the following statement:

“Today is another deadly day in Greeley, Colorado. We lost one of our beloved union sisters, Tin Aye, a hardworking and gentle family woman who came to America in pursuit of the American Dream. Instead, she died unnecessarily because JBS failed to do enough to protect Tin before the plant closure, or the eight other workers who have since died. We will not stop pressuring JBS to enhance its safety measures to protect our members so no other families have to go through the nightmare that Tin's family is now experiencing.”

As of May 17th, the JBS Greeley plant currently has 316 confirmed COVID-19 cases. JBS and federal, state and local officials promised to test all of the workers at the plant, but abruptly stopped. The plant, and by extension the Greeley community, has become a COVID-19 hotspot in Colorado.

Photos of Tin Aye and her family for publication can be found [here](#), and these photos can be credited to the Family of Tin Aye.

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[Local 7](#), the largest Union in Colorado is affiliated with United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents over 1.3 million workers in the United States and Canada, and is one of the largest private sector Unions in North America. UFCW members work in a wide range of industries, including retail food, food processing, agriculture, retail sales, and health care.