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KIM C. CORDOVA
President

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Secretary-Treasurer

May 7, 2020

Sisters and Brothers Working for King Soopers and City Market,

First, I want to thank you for your heroic contribution working on the frontline ensuring that our communities have the food supply and resources they need during this national and global pandemic. I am so proud of our Union family and appreciate the sacrifices each of you have made while most Americans are sheltering in at home.

Unfortunately, the company has chosen to turn their back on the very “heroes” that have worked tirelessly to ensure all Coloradoans were fed through this crisis. Kroger has announced that they intend to cease the “hero” pay effective May 16, 2020. Their decision to strip pay from you is unconscionable! The risk of exposure to the Coronavirus will continue to exist as long as there is no available vaccine or cure.

As cities across our state begin to open up and ease restrictions, we fear that it is likely that more customers will be shopping in the stores. The company has already failed to enforce customer safe distancing and require customers to wear masks while shopping. The company has offered testing to the general public, but failed to provide COVID-19 testing for all of its workers. We are not out of the woods yet. The virus is not going to magically disappear on May 17, 2020. Most health experts are bracing for a second round of the COVID-19 virus.

Kroger has made statements such as “starting the path to recovery” and “beginning to see a return to normal”. These statements do not reflect the reality of the increase of COVID-19 cases in our stores as well as deaths around our state and country. To date, we have been made aware of at least 39 COVID-19 positive cases and one death in our King Soopers stores. How can the company change your status from “hero” to “zero”? It is more important now than ever for the company to stand with its workers.

Rest assured that we will continue to demand that the company extend the “hero” pay. We are standing in solidarity with other UFCW Locals that represent Kroger’s essential workers around the country as well.

It is imperative that you let your Store Managers, District Managers, the Division President and CEO Rodney McMullen know how you feel regarding their heartless and callous decision to take away your pay:

Steve Burnham, President King Soopers / City Market
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Rodney McMullen, CEO Kroger
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I will continue to update you as we fight for the pay and safety protections you deserve.

In Solidarity,

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