



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **UFCW Local 7 Outraged at JBS COVID-19 Worker’s Compensation Denials**

**DENVER** – Kim Cordova, President of UFCW Local 7, which represents 3,000 members employed by JBS Greeley, issued the following statement in response to JBS’ denial of workers’ compensation:

“We are disgusted, but not surprised, to hear that JBS has denied workers’ compensation to the families of our members who were infected with COVID-19 at the plant, six of whom died. The basis of JBS’ claim that the employee’s COVID-19 infections were not work-related is a downright lie. Even the paper-tiger OSHA fined JBS a grossly insulting \$15,000 for insufficient protection of its workers during the pandemic.

Every worker who died or got seriously infected contracted the disease working at the plant during the same time frame in March 2020. It was during this same time frame that Weld County reported hundreds of COVID-19 infected JBS workers flooding local hospitals, all of whom complained, officially, about a dangerous ‘work while sick’ culture at the JBS plant.

We are hopeful that the families of our members get what they deserve as these cases go through Colorado's workers’ compensation system. Although these funds can never bring back their dead relatives, they can at least pay off medical bills and burial costs.”

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*Local 7 is the largest private-sector Union in Colorado and Wyoming. It is affiliated with the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents over 1.3 million workers in the United States and Canada, 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.*

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