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THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN: UFCW LOCAL 7 CELEBRATES JOE BIDEN'S PRESIDENTIAL VICTORY

UFCW Local 7 Looks Forward to Working with the Incoming Administration and New Allies in the Congress like Senator-Elect John Hickenlooper to Protect Workers' Rights and Safety, Protect the ACA, and Pass Immigration Reform

DENVER- The United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) Local 7, which represents more than 27,000 workers in Colorado and Wyoming, congratulates the American people for participating in the democratic process with record voter participation. Members of Local 7 worked tirelessly in the middle of a pandemic to register almost 4,000 voters and make more than 40,000 phone calls to help get out the vote with nearly 3 million Coloradoans who voted. The country is ready to close this chapter in history and move forward with our next President of the United States, Joe Biden.

UFCW Local 7 President Kim Cordova issued the following statement on behalf of Local 7, which represents more than 22,000 Essential Workers in Colorado and Wyoming, in response to the results of the 2020 presidential election:

"Local 7 is honored to stand alongside the American people who elected President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. These two candidates have spent their lives fighting for people of all races, ethnicities, and economic backgrounds. Our country has a lot of healing to do in the months ahead, but we are confident that these two experienced leaders will address the critical issues impacting all working families across the country, regardless of whom they voted for.

"Our members and their families have been hit disproportionately hard by the pandemic, with more than 600 members who have contracted COVID-19 and nine souls who have passed away from the deadly virus. We look forward to working with the incoming Biden Administration to ensure that America's working families are at the center of any COVID mitigation plan, including addressing workplace safety, fair wages and benefits, access to health care, and resolving systemic racial inequities.

"A Biden-Harris Administration has the opportunity to build a stronger, more resilient American economy by protecting access to health care, preparing workers with the skills needed to adapt to the 21st-century work environment, ensuring their safety and supporting comprehensive immigration policies. This includes making sure federal dollars don't go to employers who engage in union-busting activities or violate labor laws, as well as empower workers to organize without fear of retaliation. We also know a top priority for our members is adapting to innovations in the workplace, like the rise of automation. Joe Biden recognizes the need for an economic recovery plan that includes as much as \$50 billion in workforce training and upskilling programs so that union workers have the skills to grow with the changing work environment.

“This pandemic has shown us that America’s health care coverage crisis is not over, and too many Americans still desperately need more coverage. The incoming administration not only supports the Affordable Care Act (ACA), but wants to expand and improve it. We will continue pushing to make sure that healthcare is a top policy priority because it is a top priority for our working families.

“Part of building a stronger country is living up to the American promise of welcoming immigrants and refugees into our country so they too can pursue the American Dream. Thousands of our members were born outside our borders and are productive, tax-paying community members who have created lives and families in Colorado and Wyoming.

“We will work hand-in-hand with the incoming Biden Administration for comprehensive immigration reform and to renew Temporary Protected Status for immigrants who are in the U.S. because of unrest or disasters in their home countries. We look forward to seeing the Biden Administration recognize the important contributions that immigrants and refugees make in our communities and economy, and work to reform our broken immigration system by first repealing draconian and inhumane policies that go against America’s values and creating a path to citizenship for immigrant workers who have sacrificed so much to contribute to the country they now call home.

“UFCW Local 7 looks forward to seeing a diverse presidential cabinet and White House staff, and of course, recognizes this historic moment as Kamala Harris becomes the first woman, and woman of color, elected as Vice President of the United States. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris ran a campaign focused on the core American value of *e pluribus unum*, out of many, one, recognizing the contributions of Americans of all races, ethnicities, creeds and socio-economic backgrounds, as the backbone of our country. Once sworn in, they will work to represent and do good by all Americans, regardless of their political persuasion.

“As elected officials whose respective careers and policies have always put people first, UFCW Local 7 is confident a Biden-Harris Administration will recognize the sacrifice and work of the Labor movement and work to enhance the lives of working families. We look forward to working with them to protect the ACA, ensure safe workplaces, livable wages, and fair benefits, and allow immigrants a chance at the American Dream too. Now, let’s get to work.”

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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.

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