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**Contacts:**

Dakar Lanzino | [dlanzino@skdknick.com](mailto:dlanzino@skdknick.com) | 407-712-3652

**UFCW LOCAL 7 STATEMENT ON WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY  
AND THE RENEWED PROMISE OF SAFE JOBS FOR ALL**

*On Workers' Memorial Day, Local 7 Calls On Employers & Government To  
Protect All Essential Workers*

**DENVER, CO** – Fifty years ago, on April 28, Workers' Memorial Day, the Occupational Safety and Health Act went into effect, promising every worker the right to a safe job. The law was won because of the tireless efforts of the Labor movement, which organized for safer working conditions and demanded government action. Unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality— winning protections that have made jobs safer and saved lives. But our work is not done. Each year, thousands of workers are killed, and millions suffer injury or illness because of dangerous working conditions.

[Workers' Memorial Day](#) is a day to remember workers killed or injured on the job and to renew the fight for strong safety and health protections in the workplace. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the inextricable link between workplace safety and the health of our communities. It is time to renew our promise and provide safe jobs for all Americans.

**Kim Cordova, President of UFCW Local 7, which represents more than 25,000 workers in grocery stores, food processing facilities, and healthcare facilities throughout Colorado and Wyoming, issued the following statement:**

“During the last year, and despite orders for people to stay home, Essential Workers in health care facilities, grocery stores, and meatpacking plants remained on the job to keep our communities -- and country -- running in the pandemic, at great personal risk. Today and every day, we honor their sacrifice and are reminded of how much work needs to be done to protect the safety, rights, wages, and benefits of these workers who are the forgotten heroes of this pandemic.

“As we look to the next 50 years of activism on behalf of workers, our elected officials and regulators must strengthen workplace safety agencies like OSHA to renew the promise to working people that they deserve jobs that are safe. OSHA has failed the American people, and we continue to demand verifiable, enforceable safety laws from Congress, and steeper penalties for negligent companies instead of the continued attempts from our government officials to shield employers from liability.

“That is why It is time for Congress to pass the PRO Act, so workers have a voice on the job and we can strengthen workers' protections. Local 7 will continue to fight, every day, until the promise of safe jobs for all is fulfilled and continue to honor all of our workers who have died or been injured on the job with action.”

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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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