



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 29, 2021

Contact: Alaina Berner | aberner@skdknick.com | 703-915-7032

UFCW LOCAL 7 FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST KING SOOPERS FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT

UFCW Local 7 Asserts King Soopers Has Violated Collective Bargaining Agreement By Using Third-Party Staffing Services In Its Stores

DENVER – Yesterday, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 7 [filed a lawsuit](#) against King Soopers for breaching the current collective bargaining agreement by using third-party staffing services to hire workers in its stores and using these workers to perform bargaining unit work. King Soopers has used companies, such as Retail Odyssey, to perform work done by Local 7 members. These staffing services are paying wages starting at \$16 per hour, far higher than the wage rate for many existing King Soopers employees.

According to the current bargaining agreement between King Soopers and UFCW Local 7, which expires on January 8, “Except for sanitation and floor maintenance, the Employer agrees not to subcontract operations existing within the stores.” Moreover, the contract provides that, “All work and services performed in the bargaining unit connected with the handling and selling of merchandise to the public shall be performed by bargaining unit members...” A new contract is currently being negotiated, although with little compromise from the company on measures to pay, protect, and respect its workers.

Kim Cordova, Vice President of UFCW International Union and President of UFCW Local 7 in Colorado and Wyoming, which represents approximately 17,000 Essential Grocery workers from Kroger/King Soopers, issued the following statement:

“This is just the latest actions by King Soopers to show a lack of appreciation for the workers who have stood by them before and during this pandemic. Despite a record year in profits, the company is choosing to hire outside workers for their store instead of offering current and prospective workers a competitive wage rate sufficient to attract new workers.

“Throughout the past few months of negotiations, King Soopers and its representatives have offered concessionary proposals instead of making sure that these Essential Workers are respected, protected, and paid what they deserve. It’s sad to see that instead of taking care of their own workers, King Soopers is choosing to outsource jobs and prepare to hire scabs – and offer to pay them more than current workers! We will not let this treatment continue. That is why we have filed this lawsuit against King Soopers demanding that they stop hiring outside workers in violation of our current contract guidelines.”

The lawsuit is available to view [here](#).

###

[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.

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)