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UFCW LOCAL 7 UPDATE ON BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS WITH KING SOOPERS

*Picket Lines Will Remain Standing as UFCW Local 7 Returns to the Bargaining Table
on Friday to Fight for Essential Grocery Store Workers*

DENVER – Kim Cordova, President of UFCW Local 7, which represents approximately 17,000 Essential Grocery workers from Kroger/King Soopers, issued the following statement on Thursday:

“In the past twenty-four hours, we have been overwhelmed by the support our Union has received. Elected leaders, our brothers and sisters in the labor movement, our Colorado neighbors, and UFCW Members from across the country have joined us, refused to cross the picket lines, and offered their support.

“As of today, our picket lines are holding strong. From the beginning, we have been open to negotiating with the Company in good faith, but have not received the same respect from them. King Soopers’ unfair labor practices – including failures to provide information we requested in order to evaluate proposals and bargain for the best contract for the workers – have put us in the position we’re in now, fighting for the Company to hear our voices.

“This afternoon, we sent a letter to King Soopers indicating that the Union is prepared to resume negotiations with the Company over a successor agreement tomorrow, January 14 at 11:00 AM MT at the Denver Marriott Tech Center which will be closed to the press.

“In order to have a productive discussion, we have requested the attendance of King Soopers/City Market President Joe Kelley, who has yet to make time in his schedule for one of these meetings for longer than nine minutes. We have been left to bargain with out-of-state attorneys and executives who do not have the best interests of our Essential Workers and the Colorado community at heart.

“The picket lines will remain up as the Bargaining Committee negotiates. We remain committed to honoring the near-unanimous vote by Local 7 members to strike against the Company for unfair labor practices. And we will continue until the Company proves it will treat Essential Workers with the dignity they deserve.”

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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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