

RWDSU New York City Car Wash Workers Strike and Help Co-Worker Return to Work



RWDSU Jomar Car Wash workers in New York City strike to help their co-worker return to work.

Workers at Jomar Car Wash in New York City, who joined the RWDSU in April, went on strike after a worker was assaulted by a co-owner and then fired. About 15 Jomar workers walked out, demanding that the owners give co-worker Guillermo Anzures his job back. Workers returned to the job when managers agreed to rehire Anzures.

“We just want respect. We’ve always asked for it; we’ve never gotten it. That’s why we’re doing this,” said Anzures.

Anzures’ firing was the latest incident in what workers say is a campaign of harassment that began before employees overwhelmingly voted to join the RWDSU. While Jomar workers used their new union voice to help their co-worker, they are still demanding their employer negotiate a fair union contract.

Jomar workers say co-owner and manager Jose Pires has taken a range of actions against workers and their efforts to organize and bargain a contract. Anzures pressed charges against Pires, who was arrested and taken to the police precinct.

The NLRB is investigating previous complaints from union members. Union lawyers are also preparing a complaint over this latest assault.

Six car washes across New York City have voted to join RWDSU since last July. Hi-Tek car wash in Queens, New York, ratified a contract, and is the first car wash east of Los Angeles where workers have a union contract. **OP**

UFCW Launches “Union Pride” Facebook Photo Contest



Members can upload their UFCW “union pride” photos at www.ufcwmade.com to enter the Facebook photo contest.

The UFCW International is collecting photos of our members at work and with UFCW-made products to display at the Seventh Regular UFCW Convention in August.

We are launching a Facebook photo contest, and need your help to highlight your members and the work they do every day.

Spread the word by repeatedly sharing the www.ufcwmade.com link on your local union’s Facebook page and posting the attached break room flyers with contest information.

How to participate:

- 1) Members can go to our Facebook application at www.ufcwmade.com to upload a picture of themselves or their UFCW-member co-workers at work, and/or with a UFCW-made product.
- 2) Members (and staff) can look at the pictures, and vote on the best photos.
- 3) The votes will be tallied on August 16th, and the person whose photo wins the most votes wins a \$500 gift card to a UFCW-represented grocery store. The two runners up get a \$250 gift card to a UFCW grocery store, and the next three finalists get great UFCW gear. **OP**

Report Shows Walmart's Low Wages Cost Taxpayers \$1 Million Per Supercenter

A report released last week by the Democratic staff of the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce shows that the price of Walmart's low wages and benefits at just one Walmart store not only costs families in lost income and economic security, but also may cost taxpayers about one million dollars in higher usage of public-assistance programs by Walmart employees and their families.

New demographic data released by Wisconsin's Medicaid program provided the needed information to uncover the scope of the taxpayer subsidization of Walmart.

The report finds that a single 300-employee Walmart Supercenter in Wisconsin may cost taxpayers anywhere from \$904,542 to nearly \$1.75 million per year, or about \$5,815 per employee. Wisconsin has 100 Walmart stores -75 are Walmart Supercenters. More information on the report can be found at <http://1.usa.gov/18zkCff>.

"Wal-Mart is the nation's largest private-sector employer, yet they pay such low wages that many of its workers are unable to provide their families with the necessities of life. The labor policies of Walmart end up leaving taxpayers holding the bag," according to the report.

The report is a follow-up to a similar 2004 report prepared by committee Democratic staff that found that a single 200-employee Walmart store costs taxpayers more than \$420,000 a year. Today, the most common Walmart store is a "Supercenter," which employs roughly 300 individuals. **OP**

Striking Walmart Workers Gather Outside Home Office in Call to End Illegal Retaliation

On June 3, striking Walmart associates gathered outside Walmart's home office to call for an end to the illegal retaliation against workers who speak out for a better Walmart. The action was the first in a series of events in Bentonville, Ark., involving workers throughout Walmart's supply chain along with community supporters, to raise growing protests about the company's business practices at home and overseas directly to shareholders and executives.



Striking Walmart associates gather outside Walmart's home office to call for an end to the illegal retaliation against workers who speak out for a better Walmart.

Associates began an extended strike last Tuesday in protest of Walmart's illegal efforts to silence the calls for change at Walmart. Throughout the week, more than 100 workers joined the strike and the "Ride for Respect" to Bentonville—a week-long, nationwide caravan in the spirit of the civil rights movement during which workers and supporters voiced the direct impact that Walmart is having on their lives and the economy.

"I love my job, but working for the country's largest private employer, I should be able to support myself, without relying on public assistance. I'm on strike because Walmart has been retaliating against workers like me for speaking up for our communities, and today I made my voice heard," said Raymond Bravo, a Walmart associate in Richmond, Calif.

With community supporters echoing their calls nationally, OUR Walmart called on Walmart to create better jobs. A growing number of associates and supporters are calling for the company to end retaliation against employees and for the company to publicly commit to providing full-time work with a minimum salary of \$25,000 a year so workers don't have to rely on taxpayer funded programs to support their families.

Support for workers' calls for change has only grown since the historic Black Friday strikes and protests at 1,000 Walmart stores last fall. In less than two years, OUR Walmart has grown from a group of 100 Walmart workers to an army of thousands of associates in 600 hundred stores across 46 states. In the last year alone, OUR Walmart chapters have grown by 25 percent nationwide.

For photos and video of strikers and their community supporters, visit <http://changewalmart.tumblr.com>, or follow the conversation and see photos on Twitter at #Walmartstrikers. **OP**

ON POINT

UFCW
Unity Agenda of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

OUR Walmart Members "Ride for Respect," Store Walkouts, and Walmart Headquarter Action





Your Union Pride Photo Could Win You Up to \$500 in Prizes!

In grocery and retail stores, in packing, poultry, and processing plants--UFCW members work in just about every community in the country. And we want YOU to help us highlight the work that UFCW members do every day!

1

Go to our Facebook page to upload a picture of you or your UFCW member co-workers at work, and/or with a UFCW-made product.

apps.facebook.com/ufcwmade

2

Then, look at the pictures, and vote on the photo you like the best. UFCW members and allies will be voting to determine the picture that best showcases UFCW-made, UFCW pride.

3

The winner gets a \$500 gift card to a UFCW-represented grocery store, the two runners up get a \$250 gift card to a UFCW grocery store, and the next three finalists get great UFCW gear!

So tell your friends and co-workers. Spread the word, and let us see your UFCW pride!

We will announce the contest winners on August 16th.
