

UFCW Statement on 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington

The following is a statement issued by the UFCW regarding the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington:

“The UFCW is proud to stand with our brothers and sisters from across the country to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Fifty years ago on August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King delivered his inspirational “I Have a Dream” speech to over 250,000 civil rights supporters from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Organized largely by A. Philip Randolph and black labor to promote freedom, economic equality and jobs, the March on Washington was a defining moment for the civil rights movement—spurring the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

“In spite of the advances we have made since the March on Washington 50 years ago—including the election of our first African American president—the dream of freedom, economic equality and jobs has not been realized. The Great Recession has widened the gap between the rich and poor, and African American and Latino communities, in particular, have been hit the hardest by the economic downturn. These and other communities have also been the targets of voter suppression, and the recent Supreme Court decision to strike down key parts of the Voting Rights Act will undermine voting rights in future elections.

“The need to mobilize for freedom, jobs and equality has never been stronger, and the UFCW is honored to continue the work of the 1963 activists by fighting for social and economic justice in the workplace and in our communities.” **OP**

Steeltech Workers Vote to Join UFCW Local 951

About 30 Steeltech workers in Grand Rapids, Mich., voted to join UFCW Local 951 last week. Workers decided that they needed a union voice to help them earn fair wages, respect on the job, and a safe work environment.

Contract negotiations are expected to begin soon. Workers at the plant take used metal products and melt them down to repurpose them for different products such as furnace parts. **OP**

UFCW Union Made Facebook Contest Winners Announced



One of the winning photos from the UFCW Union Made Facebook Contest.

The winners have been selected for the UFCW Union Made Facebook contest. Earlier this year, UFCW launched a photo contest to highlight UFCW made products and members at work. Members were asked to post pictures of themselves or their co-workers or other members—on the job or with the products we make on the Facebook app. Winners will be contacted about their prizes shortly and the winning pictures will be posted soon.

These members and staff received the most votes for their photos, and have won the following in order of most votes received:

First Place: Paula, Local 770 Santa Barbara, winning a \$500 grocery gift card

Second Place: Dawne, Local 880, winning a \$250 grocery gift card

Third Place: Cole Edwards, Local 1189, winning a \$250 grocery gift card

Fourth Place: Mary Brown, Local 1428, winning a UFCW Bonded Fleece Jacket

Fifth Place: Diane Johnson, Local 770, winning a UFCW T-shirt

Sixth Place: George Wilson, Local 23, winning a UFCW travel mug

Congratulations to the winners! Many of the submitted pictures will be posted on the UFCW Facebook page and on the UFCW website in the weeks and months to come. **OP**

UFCW 7th Regular Convention Speakers and Highlights

The UFCW 7th Regular Convention was held from August 12-15 in Chicago. Nearly 2,000 delegates and alternates came with one message, “We are proud to be blue, gold, and bold. And we are powerful together.”

On August 13, delegates elected President Joseph T. Hansen and the entire Executive Committee: Secretary-Treasurer Marc Perrone, and Executive Vice Presidents Bill McDonough, Pat O’Neill and Wayne Hanley. In addition, delegates also elected 46 vice presidents at large; and four vice presidents of UFCW Canada. More photos from the Convention can be found at <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjHovrgH>. **OP**



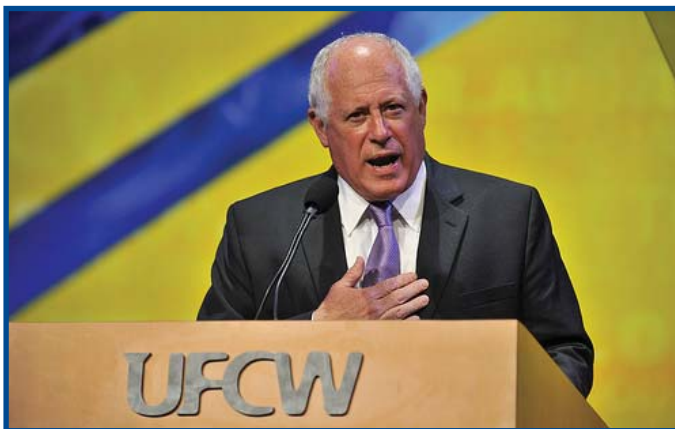
Vice President Joe Biden delivers a message from Washington, D.C. to the delegates in Chicago.



“We must fix the growing income gap, which is undermining the middle class,” Rep. Nancy Pelosi (CA-12).



Women’s equality and worker activist Lilly Ledbetter addresses delegates at the Convention, “There is so much injustice, so there is so much work to be done.”



“We believe in organizing here in Illinois. Early to bed, early to rise, work like hell to organize,” Illinois Governor Pat Quinn.



“I am here today to tell you we can rebuild the American Dream for everyone,” Rep. Jan Schakowsky (IL-9).

ON POINT

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



Rep. John Lewis (GA-5) greets OUR Walmart members at the convention.



UFCW delegates declare that the "Time is Now!" for comprehensive immigration reform.



"Proud, honored and humbled to be with UFCW brothers and sisters today in Chicago," AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.



Praising the efforts of union activists, actor and activist Ashley Judd echoed the importance of union solidarity and combined action, "the greatest progress for the greatest number depends on unity."



Sarita Gupta from Jobs with Justice, "The Making Change at Walmart campaign, you are forging new paths for workers. You are bold."