

## Walmart Workers and Supporters Plan for Largest Mobilization Since Black Friday



*OUR Walmart members and supporters prepare for the a mobilization action that will be held across 15 cities on September 5.*

As calls to rebuild the economy with better jobs reverberate across the country, Walmart workers and their supporters announced the largest mobilization since Black Friday, set for Thursday, September 5. The announcement comes as Walmart has failed to meet a Labor Day deadline to reinstate illegally fired and disciplined workers and publicly commit to improve wages and jobs. Thousands of workers and their supporters plan to protest on Thursday in over a dozen cities across the country.

Since June, Walmart has illegally disciplined nearly 80 workers, including firing 20 worker-leaders. More than 100 Unfair Labor Practice charges have been filed with the NLRB against Walmart.

“Walmart, we cannot wait any longer for you to do the right thing for American workers. Our jobs should not be at risk when we speak out about improvements that would help our families and Walmart customers,” said a Cindy Murray a Walmart worker who was recently arrested for protesting at Walmart’s Washington, D.C. offices.

“Walmart cannot silence our concerns,” said Brandon Garrett a former Walmart worker who was illegally fired after going to Walmart’s annual shareholders meeting. “Our fight to get Walmart to publicly commit to providing better jobs is not just about improving the lives of our families. It’s about improving jobs for all American workers and for strengthening the economy for all of us.”

There are several ways for locals and members to help support Walmart workers as they take action on September 5.

- **Share the petition:** Locals can share and sign the petition located at <http://bit.ly/150trkD>.
  - **Sign up for Thunderclap:** Thunderclap is like a social media bomb, where members can donate their Facebook or Twitter account for one post or tweet to Thunderclap by giving the app access to their account for a small window of time and encourage other supporters to do the same. It will send out one tweet or post at the same time from everyone’s accounts in a compressed amount of time to be most-effective. Members can sign up for Thunderclap at <http://bit.ly/13DXDbb>.
  - **Spread the word on social media:** Share any of the images located at <http://bit.ly/17zqsEN> or the video posted at <http://bit.ly/19fR8K0> on Facebook. Members can also go to Twitter to show their support.
- Sample Tweet:** #WalmartStrikers are drawing a line. Stand with them for a real wage & workers’ rights on Sept. 5th [bit.ly/1cgXnPA](http://bit.ly/1cgXnPA) @ChangeWalmart
- **Actions:** OUR Walmart is having actions on the ground across the country. All of those events are posted at the Action Network website at <http://bit.ly/12IMmni>. If members are interested in attending, they can RSVP on the website and will receive a confirmation. **OP**

## Hundreds of Grocery Workers Sign Up to have a Union Voice and Join UFCW Local 7



*Over 200 grocery workers signed up to have a union voice on the job and join UFCW Local 7.*

Since this spring, more than 214 Wyoming grocery workers signed up for union membership with UFCW Local 7. Membership spiked by 26 percent at the 13 UFCW Local 7 Wyoming Safeway, Albertsons and Smith stores. Four stores have a solid 80 percent membership.

SPUR Tommy O'Reilly attributes the success of the campaign to, "simply talking to union members and letting non-members know that there is power in numbers." He added, "that's what puts power in the collective bargaining." **OP**

## UFCW Local 400 Members Ratify New Kroger Contract

Members of UFCW Local 400 working at Kroger in the Roanoke area of Virginia successfully ratified a new, three-year collective bargaining agreement that raises living standards and maintains health and retirement benefits.

The bargaining was challenging and the previous contract, which expired on March 31, 2013, was extended for five months, though many other negotiations in the grocery industry have required extensions lasting a year or longer.

Highlights of the new agreement include wage increases over the life of the contract including employer contribu-



*UFCW Local 400 Kroger workers ratify a new contract that increases wages and protects health and retirement benefits.*

tions to the health and retirement funds, plus bonuses. The new agreement also maintains health and retirement benefits for current employee, and expands job classifications that increase the number of lead positions, creating new paths for career advancement. It also defeats of numerous management proposals for worker concessions. **OP**



Local leaders and members can now view and download photos from the UFCW Seventh Regular Convention. There are hundreds of photos of UFCW members, staff, and speakers available at <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjHovrgH>. **OP**