

LOCAL 1473

United Food & Commercial Workers Union
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Jake Bailey • *President*

Marie Werth • *Secretary-Treasurer*

March 5, 2025

Dear Mayor Johnson and Common Council members,

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1473 supports our union siblings with MASH forming a union at the Trade Hotel. We stand strongly against any union-busting by companies like their employer, NCG Hospitality. We call on you as elected leaders to stand with all of us, too.

From housekeepers, banquet servers and cooks to grocery workers, meatpackers and baristas, all workers should have secure employment paying living wages with the rights and protections of a collective bargaining agreement. Workers covered by union contracts live materially better lives than those who are not, especially in jobs like these.

As a union consistently organizing with workers who want to join our ranks, we see too often the atrocious behavior of anti-union employers who act with impunity regarding worker rights and labor laws. When employers unleash their union-busting campaigns on workers and brazenly violate the law to oppose unionization, they do so with the belief that they will not be held accountable.

This kind of conduct should have no place in Milwaukee or Wisconsin. This is a union town and a union state – but only if our elected leaders stick up for workers and unions and take a stand against union-busting.

We have seen the deleterious impacts of a decade of concerted assaults on unions and workers' rights in our state, like Act 10 and Right to Work. We have seen the tremendous adverse impact on working people, Milwaukee and Wisconsin from decades of anti-union forces eroding workers rights and collective bargaining. Political leaders have fought against us, but different political leaders like you can be in the fight on our side here.

Now is the time for policy-makers to stand with us, workers and unions, who are organizing to reverse this dynamic. Now is the time for you to stand up for workers rights and stand against union-busting. Now is the time for Milwaukee's elected leaders to see to it that the labor dispute at the Trade gets settled.

Milwaukee needs more good union jobs in service, hospitality and retail work. Standing up for workers rights and unionization at the Trade Hotel and against union-busting by NCG Hospitality not only means standing for the right principles but also empowering other workers to stand up for themselves and organize unions, too.

UFCW Local 1473 stands with MASH and the Trade Hotel workers and we call on you to join us by ensuring settlement of the labor dispute.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jake Bailey', is written over a white background.

Jake Bailey
President, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1473