

The Organizer

Newsletter of the Socialist Party USA National Office

June/July 2023

The Organizer c/o SPUSA 217 Centre Street, Suite #344 New York, NY 10013 * www.SocialistParty-USA.org

Solidarity with Teamster Workers

The Socialist Party USA stands in solidarity with the almost 350,000 rank-and-file Teamster workers currently in negotiation with the bosses at UPS for a new contract. The Teamsters' current contract with UPS will expire after July 31, 2023. During the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic, UPS Teamster drivers and warehouse workers were on the front lines to ensure Americans received important packages, including life-saving medicines. While many workers suffered job loss due to the pandemic, UPS made record-breaking profits in back-to-back years (\$13.1 billion in 2021 and another \$13.9 billion in 2022). The company is projected to bring in even greater profits in 2023. The bravery of rank-and-file Teamsters made such profits possible, and thus, deserve their fair share and respect from the company.

Rank-and-file Teamsters are demanding:

1. An end to the two-tiered pay system that disadvantages new workers, particularly package drivers.
2. The end of forced overtime beyond the five-day work week.
3. Higher wages for part-time drivers (\$25 an hour), who make only minimum wage throughout much of the country.
4. The end of subcontracting drivers and an end of supervisors engaging in warehouse work.
5. The end of on-the-job harassment including cameras facing drivers and supervisors tailing trucks to speed up deliveries.
6. Health and safety protections including protection from: heat exhaustion during the summers worsened by the climate crisis; extreme cold in northern distribution centers during the winters; and overuse injuries associated with warehouse work.
7. Improved wages, protection for pensions, and healthcare to secure the future well-being of Teamster workers and their families.

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Local Actions and Organizing

May Day in the Twin Cities



Members of the Twin Cities Metro Area SP-USA Local joined approx. 500 activists on May 1st, celebrating May Day 2023 at the March for Immigrants and Workers' Rights in Minneapolis.

New Local Organizers

The National Executive Committee is proud to announce two new Local Organizers.

Peyton Williams is our new **Memphis Local Organizer** and **Tricia George** is our new **Hartford County, CT Local Organizer**.

Both Local Organizers will be reaching out to members in their area soon. A full list of Local Organizers is in the Party Directory at socialistpartyusa.net/directory

**SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE
SPUSA**



The Socialist Party USA depends on your support to continue our work.

Please consider a contribution

socialistpartyusa.net/make-a-donation

The Organizer is the official publication of the Socialist Party USA National Office. Greg Pason, National Secretary, is Editor.

Teamsters continued..

The Socialist Party stands in solidarity with the Teamster rank-and-file. On June 16, the Teamsters finished a strike authorization vote which resulted in 97% of all votes authorizing a strike if bargaining results are not finished or acceptable. Beginning the week of June 5, UPS Teamster locals voted to give strike authorization with 97% of those voting in favor of a strike. This gives the bargaining team greater leverage at the negotiating table and grants the Teamster leadership to call a strike if the company does not meet worker demands. Such a strike would have enormous implications for the nation and the immediate future of class struggle in the United States as the United Auto Workers, Amazon workers, railroad workers, and FedEx workers all continue to fight for working-class democracy and dignified working conditions.

Gaining a contract including the union's demands will require a long, militant strike. The Teamsters union needs to prepare for such a strike. Only a mobilized rank and file can provide the basis for a victorious strike. Teamsters need to be ready to resist pressure from President Biden to end their strike and coerce an acceptance of a weak contract. The Democratic Party consistently acts to defend the interests of the

corporations, not the workers. This was demonstrated once again when Biden and Congress imposed a woefully inadequate strike settlement on the railroad workers. A total break with the Democratic Party is an essential prerequisite to a vital. Successful working class movement.

The U.S. working class is moving to win back power that has been under the assault of global capitalist austerity for decades. The Socialist Party USA stands in solidarity with workers and oppressed peoples everywhere to develop independent working-class power, free from the constraints of the capitalist domination of the two-party system, through their unions and organizations

Workers of the world, unite!

Renew your membership on-line at:

SocialistPartyUSA.net/renew-your-membership

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