

**UFCW
MINORITY
COALITION**
EQUALITY through SOLIDARITY

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February 17, 2009

Mr. Ricky McDowell
President

International Union United Automobile Aerospace
Agriculture Implement Workers of America-UAW
North Carolina/South Carolina
Civil/ Human Rights Council
P.O. Box 10
Mt. Holly, N.C. 28120

Dear Brother McDowell,

The United Food and Commerical Workers Minority Coalition would like to thank you for your unwavering support for the Justice At Smithfield Campaign. You promised the Smithfield workers that you and the UAW would fight until victory was won. You made good on your promise. You and your members stood side-by-side with Smithfield workers and UFCW brothers and sisters until justice prevailed.

As we celebrate the victory at Smithfield in Tar Heel, we know that there remains many challenges for workers in North Carolina. These challenges may be many, but they can be won. The United Food and Commercial Workers Minority Coalition now stands ready to assist and support the UAW and Freightliner workers in your efforts to keep freightliner jobs in North Carolina. Tell the Freightliner workers that they are not alone. We will fight until vitory is won at Freightliner.

In Solidarity,



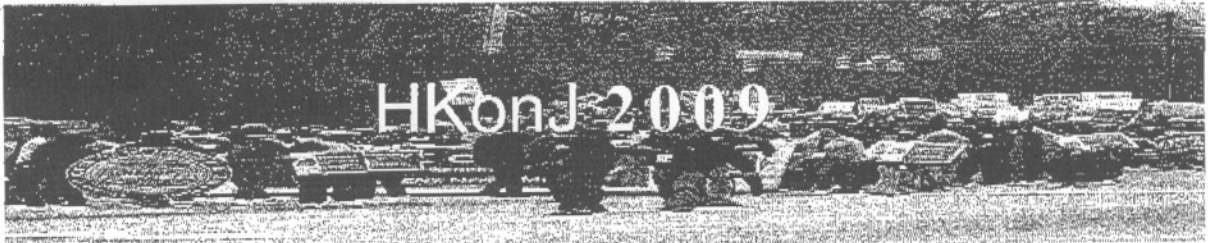
Donald L. Cash, Sr.
President

UFCW Minority Coalition

Visit our websites:

www.ufcwminoritycoalition.org • www.facesoffourchildren.org

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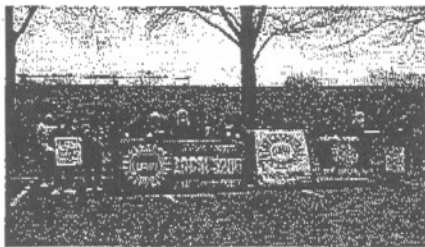


Last year's agenda for the UAW was to support the Smithfield Workers, now Unionized; this year's Agenda is to Support UAW workers and Freightliner Job Lost. Smithfield workers vowed to help the UAW and Freightliner workers in anyway that help is needed.

After a project; of getting the members to Raleigh, was turn over by Local 5285 President Bob Riggins to VP Ricky McDowell. A week of Co-Ordination of a Motor Coach; by Vice Presidents Ricky McDowell of Local 5285 and Jeff Hicks of Local 3520 , the members of UAW Local 5285, 5286, and 3520 rode to Raleigh, to voice their opposition of Freightliner Jobs leaving NC.



Along with thousands of other Civic, Labor, Church and Community group, they met at the Historic Chavis Park and marched a 1.6 mile route to the Capital Building. Most of all the Labor groups present were suffering from some sort of adversity, just as the UAW members. The Union Members had signs for Employee Free Choice Act, No NAFTA, Health Care Not Welfare, and Support Collective bargaining for Public Workers. The March wound through the streets of uptown Raleigh and ended on the steps of the Legislature Building.



Rev. Barber, president of the NC NAACP, gave a moving speech on his 14 point Agenda for North Carolina, which also included Jobs and Labor in NC. He stated "As Long as Corporations receiving big Tax Breaks from NC and treating their employees unfair. We will always come here and PROTEST." "As long as CEOs receive big bonuses on the backs of the workers. We will always come here and PROTEST." As long as workers are under paid, underemployed and unemployed. We will always come here and PROTEST." "When laid off workers, can't afford their mortgage, can't afford their bills or just can't buy food. We will always come here and PROTEST." President of the NC AFL-CIO James Andrews spoke to the crowd of thousands about the 2000 Freightliner Jobs to be lost on March 13th.

Remember NAFTA+ CAFTA= SHAFTA and Employee Free Choice Act+ Union Jobs= JOBS in America. Support Your Local Union and Community Groups or deal with the consequences of a Silent Voice! Thanks to all Local Union Leadership because this could not have been accomplished. Jeff Hicks LUPA 3520

