



UAW Region 8 Directors Report

Director Jim Smith



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we approach the end of 2024, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've had this year in UAW Region 8. Together in solidarity, we've achieved remarkable milestones and overcome challenges that strengthened the UAW members. Our union members at three local unions, in solidarity, went on strike against three companies and won a better contract for the workers in the end. Your dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment to the UAW have been and will always be the driving force behind our success.

I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished in UAW Region 8 and all other UAW Regions in the United States of America. In 2024, we ratified 48 local union contracts. Each of you has played a vital role in our achievements, and I am deeply grateful for that.

As we look forward to 2025, I am excited about the opportunities and possibilities that lie ahead. I am confident that with the same solidarity and determination, UAW Region 8 will continue to reach new heights and make even greater strides. We are the UAW!

UAW Region 8 continues to fight for fair contracts and organize and educate the membership in 17 states. UAW Region 8 covers 17 states plus 4 counties in Pennsylvania. UAW Region 8 is the largest and most diverse region in the UAW representing workers in various sectors including agriculture, aerospace, heavy trucks, higher education, gaming, IPS, manufacturing, nursing, public educators, and state government agencies. With 17 states, communication is the key to building Solidarity in UAW



UAW REGION 8



The UAW has faced numerous challenges in organizing Southern auto plants this year, including strong opposition from employers and political leaders. However, recent successes show that when we stick together in solidarity, we will defeat corporate greed. UAW Region 8 victory at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga marked a significant breakthrough, with 73% of workers voting in favor of unionization and becoming a part of UAW Local 42. This success has energized efforts at other plants. A strong contract will be negotiated for the VW membership, in the near future Mercedes Benz will want to join UAW and negotiate a fair day's work for a fair day's pay.

Organizing is crucial in Region 8 as we seek to expand our influence and fight for a fair day's work for a fair day's pay! With a significant portion of the U.S. auto industry located in Region 8, we will keep organizing until the south is one hundred percent UAW. All workers who unionize and become UAW can expect higher wages, better benefits, and improved working conditions. For example, workers at the Detroit Big 3 automakers recently secured a 33% pay raise in their new contracts.

Region 8 has a plan for the South that is part of a broader strategy to organize about 150,000 workers at nonunion plants across the country. This includes targeting factories run by major automakers like Toyota, Honda, and Mercedes-Benz.

UAW Region 8 recently achieved a significant victory at the Ultium Cells battery plant in Spring Hill, Tennessee now part of UAW Local 1853. This plant, a joint venture between General Motors and LG Energy Solution, saw a majority of its 1,000 workers sign cards to join the UAW.

UAW Region 8 success at the Ultium plant marks our second major victory in Tennessee this year, following the unionization of Volkswagen's Chattanooga plant, we are not done! Our brothers and sisters at the Ultium plant can expect to negotiate for higher wages, better benefits, and improved working conditions. This is a positive step for workers in the region, demonstrating that Southern workers are increasingly ready to unionize and secure their fair share.

Soon we welcome Ford Blue Oval workers to the UAW Region 8. A supermajority of workers at BlueOval SK (BOSK) in Glendale Kentucky have signed union authorization cards and launched their public campaign to join the UAW. The campaign launch at BOSK, a joint venture of Ford and SK On, is the latest breakthrough for electric vehicle (EV) battery workers organizing with the UAW Region 8. BlueOval SK workers are autoworkers, and they deserve the good, safe union jobs that UAW has won elsewhere in the industry. Ford Blue Oval battery plant is set to be fully operational by 2025, UAW has every intention of fighting for the membership to see that they receive good, safe union jobs that UAW has won elsewhere in the industry.

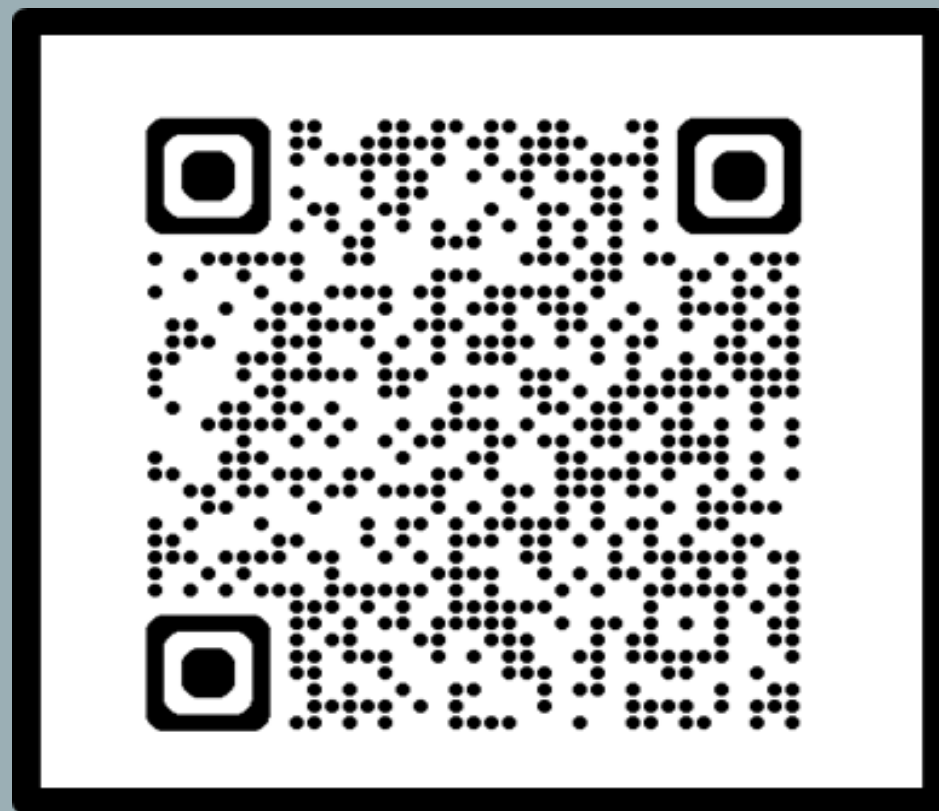


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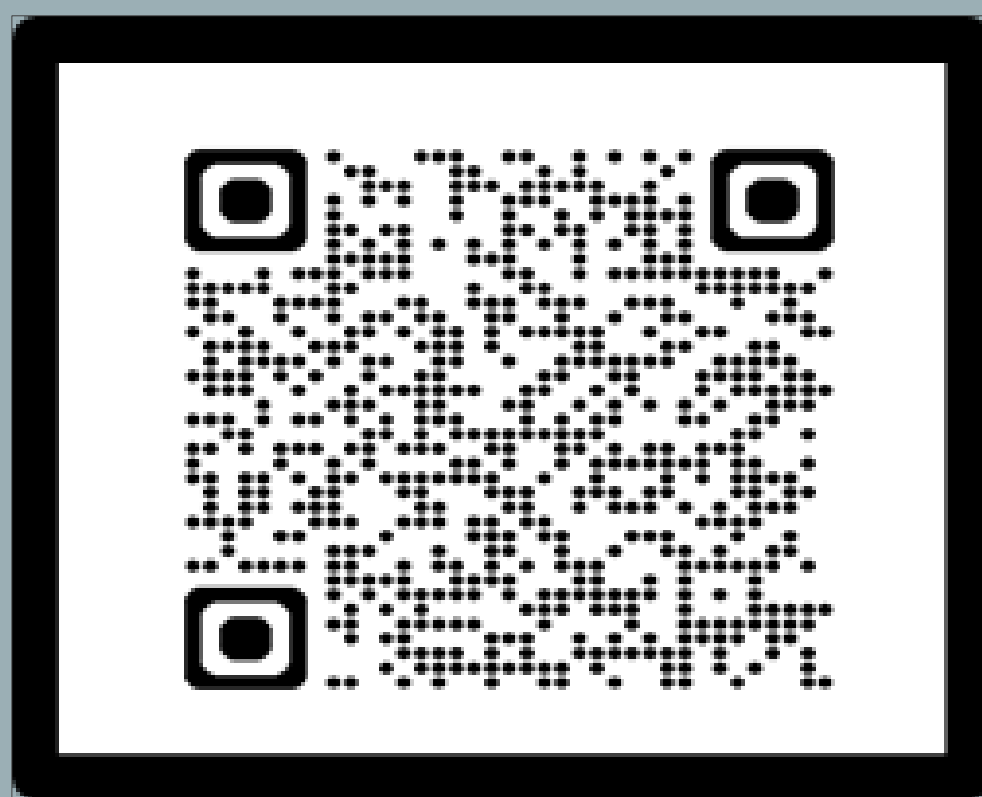


Please visit your UAW Region 8 website at www.uawregion8.net

Scan QR Code to enter UAW Region 8 website



**Please Scan the QR code for UAW Region 8 Local Unions by state.
UAW Region 8 Servicing Representatives by state.**



UAW Retirees,

As we reflect upon our journey with the UAW and the numerous successes we have achieved, we are profoundly aware of the solid foundation that you have established. Your unwavering dedication, tireless efforts, and steadfast commitment have been instrumental in paving the way for our current and future accomplishments.

We owe a significant portion of our achievements to the paths you have diligently forged. Your invaluable contributions have not only shaped our organization but have also set a benchmark of excellence and resilience that continues to inspire us daily throughout all regions of the UAW.

Thank you for your years of service and for laying the groundwork that has made us what we are today. Your legacy is a testament to the strength and unity of the United Auto Workers, and we are proud to carry forward the torch you have passed on to us.

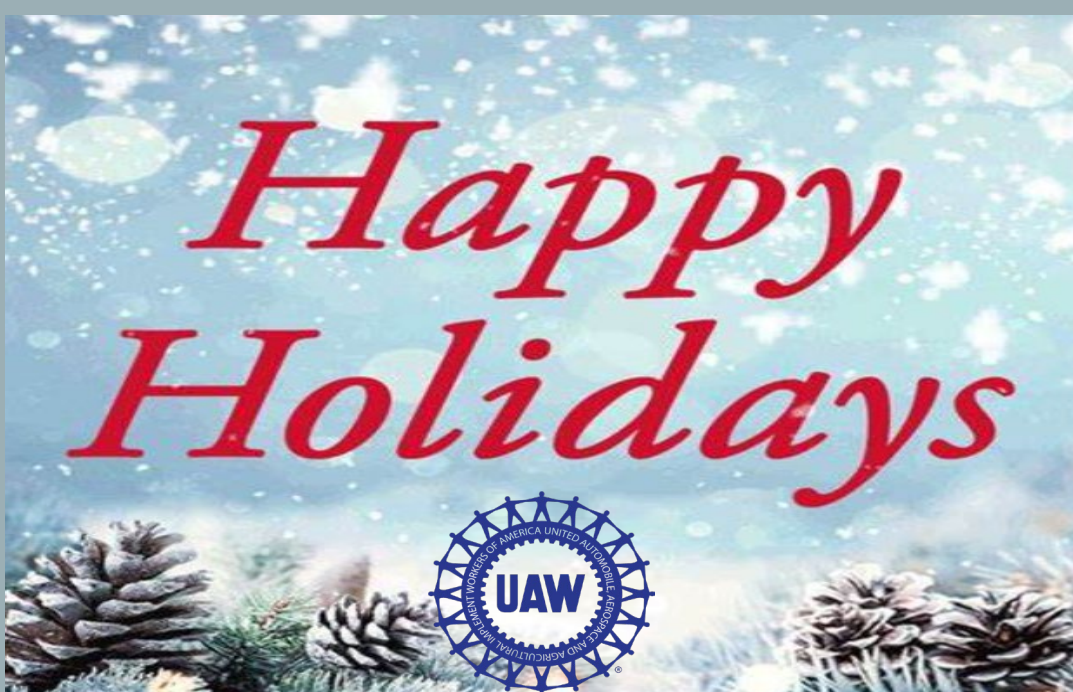
Please accept our heartfelt thanks and best wishes for a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement. May you enjoy this time with your loved ones, secure in the knowledge that your efforts have left an indelible mark on our history and future.

Brothers and Sisters,

As we look forward to 2025, I am excited about the opportunities and possibilities that lie ahead. I am confident that with the same spirit and determination, we will continue to reach new heights and make even greater strides. We are the UAW!

During this holiday season, I hope you take the time to relax, recharge, and enjoy the company of your loved ones. May your holidays be filled with joy, peace, and happiness. Please stay safe and take care of yourselves and your families.

Thank you once again for your hard work and dedication. I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season and a prosperous New Year.



In Solidarity

**Tim Smith
Region 8 Director**

