

The DO's and DON'Ts of Picketing

Instructions to Pickets and Hand billers:

It is your constitutional right to picket your employer and pass out handbills during a strike. Your picketing is a form of free speech protected by the first amendment.

Your right to strike, picket, handbill, and engage other forms of concerned activities as workers are also guaranteed by Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act.

When you are picketing:

- ✓ Ask workers who have not yet honored the picket lines to do so. Even if they are not members of the Union, Section 7 protects them from Employer discipline when they refuse to cross a picket line.
- ✓ Ask the public not to patronize the employer, and ask persons making deliveries to the employer to honor the picket line.
- ✓ Communicate with customers in a courteous manner and thank them for their support. Tell them why you are striking.
- ✓ Cooperate with police officers and obey their instructions. If there is a problem, obtain the officer's name and department affiliation, and badge number, and report information about police actions to the Picket Captain.
- ✓ Maintain peaceful and orderly picketing. Keep moving and maintain adequate space between pickets to allow for access through company entrances and gates.
- ✓ Do NOT use foul or abusive language to customers or others in the vicinity of picket lines.
- ✓ You have the right to call strike breakers "Scabs." You may add descriptive adjectives such as "lousy scab." You must NOT use any derogatory language regarding a person's race, ethnic origin, religion, gender, age or sexual preference.
- ✓ Do NOT threaten customers or others.
- ✓ Do NOT physically touch any persons approaching or crossing picket lines.
- ✓ Do NOT make any statements to police, reporters, TV/Radio, managers or security agents. Refer all questions to the Picket Captain or Local Union Officers.

- ✓ Do NOT litter. Keep the area clean.
- ✓ Do NOT drink alcoholic beverages or bring any non-prescription drugs with you to picket duty.
- ✓ Picket only the employer being struck and the workers performing the work of the employer being struck.
- ✓ Do NOT picket gates reserved for employees of so-called 'neutral' employers. If you have questions about reserve gates, ask Picket Captain.
- ✓ Report any incidents involving threatening or dangerous behavior by strike-breakers to Picket Captain and/or Union. Make note as to what happened (Date, Time, Place, description of individuals, witness names.)
- ✓ Do NOT interfere with traffic beyond what pedestrians normally are entitled to do.
- ✓ Do NOT argue with other pickets. If you have a problem, take it to the Picket captain.
- ✓ Thank everyone for his or his support of the picket.

If you have any questions regarding where you can picket or how you can conduct strike activities, contact your picket captain. The Executive Board will be available during the strike to answer questions, and assist in the maintenance of effective picket lines.