



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GROCERY TEAMSTERS CONTRACT BULLETIN



DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

Since our last update Local Unions have conducted informational update meetings and took strike authorization votes over the past weeks. I want to thank all of you for participating in these meetings and for voting. We had the greatest turn out in over 30 years, and your vote was loud and clear.

Ralphs and Albertsons invited a mediator from the Federal Mediation and Reconciliation Service (FMCS) to join our negotiations to help facilitate progress. Over the past 2 weeks, the mediator has been involved between both parties, and we have yet to get any tentative agreements. We are hopeful that future discussions will move all parties forward, but the mediator's job is simply to facilitate an agreement and avoid a labor dispute. The Union's goal is to obtain a fair contract that addresses the membership's concerns, and we intend to utilize all the tools at our disposal to achieve that goal.

Your Bargaining Committee has met with Ralphs and Albertsons seven times for joint negotiations.

The Local Unions representing Ralphs have met seven times with Ralphs alone, and Local 952 has met with Albertsons seven times alone.

The Union has provided Ralphs and Albertsons with comprehensive non-economic proposals meant to solve problems brought to the Negotiating Committee by the membership. It is abundantly clear Ralphs and Albertsons are holding negotiations hostage over these issues in order to obtain leverage for what they assume will be contentious negotiations over economic items such as wages, health & welfare, and pension.

I ask our members to be patient and stand in solidarity with each other during this process.

In Solidarity,

LOU VILLALVAZO

Joint Council 42

Food/Grocery Negotiating Chairmen