



INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA - UAW

RON GETTELFINGER, PRESIDENT

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February 15, 2008

Robert Whiteside  
1842 Gay Street  
Statesville, North Carolina 28625

Dear Brother Whiteside:

I received the February 3, 2008 letter asking the International Union, UAW to hire Ellis Boal as the Union's attorney in the upcoming arbitration hearing regarding the discharge grievances. The letter, signed by all five discharged members, voiced several concerns regarding Mike Okun handling your arbitration.

I know this is a difficult time for all of you. Rest assured that you are indeed an "interest" to us. You are UAW members and this case will most assuredly be arbitrated with the very highest degree of professionalism and expertise. As union representatives, I am sure you understood Mike was speaking the truth when he told you that the International Union, UAW is indeed the actual "client," and not the five of you independently.

Mike has been in frequent contact with your own attorney, Travis Payne, for many months and will continue to stay in contact with him as long as he is your lawyer. Mike has also been discussing strategy with Mr. Payne. Ultimately, however, the decision about what arguments, evidence and specific details will be used during arbitration will be based upon consideration of all the evidence, discussions and consultations between Mike and the International.

The union is very happy with Mike's work on this case and we are confident in his abilities with regard to handling discharge grievances. So, I must, at this time, deny the request to retain Mr. Boal.

In Solidarity,

General Holiefield  
Vice President and Director  
Heavy Truck Department

GH:sb  
opeiu494

cc: Terry Bolte  
Tim Bressler  
John Byers  
Gary Castool  
George Drexel  
Mike Okun