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Walter L. Johnson

Resolution in Support of the Global Hyatt Boycott

Whereas: Hyatt has singled itself out as the worst hotel employer in America—abusing workers, replacing career housekeepers with minimum wage temporary workers, and imposing dangerous workloads on those who remain; and

Whereas: Hyatt has refused the request by workers in several cities including San Francisco, Santa Clara, Indianapolis, San Antonio, Scottsdale and Long Beach for a fair process to select a union. The Grand Hyatt San Antonio settled a NLRB complaint which alleged that workers had been intimidated and retaliated against for participating in legally protected union activities; and

Whereas: thousands of unionized Hyatt workers in San Francisco and in other major U.S. cities have been without a contract for over three years and are seeking a fair contract from Hyatt; and

Whereas: Hyatt's aggressive subcontracting is destroying good jobs. For instance, in Boston Hyatt fired approximately 100 long time employees in three Boston area hotels and replaced them with subcontracted workers at minimum wage and no health insurance. The subcontracted workers now clean as many as 30 rooms a day, nearly double what is typically required of union workers. Many of the fired employees report that Hyatt required that they train their replacements; and

Whereas: Hyatt housekeepers have crushing workloads that can lead to serious pain and debilitating injuries. Hyatt is the first company in the hotel industry to be issued a companywide letter by the federal government, warning the company of hazards its housekeepers face; and

Whereas: In one especially egregious example of disrespect for its workers, on July 21, 2011, heat lamps in the awning above the Park Hyatt Chicago front entrance were turned on striking workers the morning a strike began and turned off shortly after reports about them surfaced in the press. That day, an excessive heat warning was issued by the National Weather Service, with heat index readings climbing above 100 degrees in downtown Chicago; and

Whereas: In response, Hyatt workers have taken bold steps to end mistreatment, speaking publicly about abuses, going on strike, and even launching a global boycott of Hyatt; and

Whereas: The national AFL-CIO, along with a broad number of national and international organizations has endorsed the Global Boycott of Hyatt Hotels, including the IUF, and virtually every union representing hotel workers worldwide.

Therefore Be It Resolved: The San Francisco Labor Council reaffirms the Global Boycott called against Hyatt Hotels. We will not eat, meet, or sleep in boycotted Hyatt Hotels; and.

Be It Further Resolved: The San Francisco Labor Council will make affiliates, community allies and union members aware of the boycott and will ask them to make the pledge; and

Be It Finally Resolved: The San Francisco Labor Council will picket, march, and mobilize in various ways to support workers wanting to form a union without employer intimidation and for a fair and just contract.

Submitted by Ian Lewis, Unite Here 2, and unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council on December 3, 2012.

Respectfully,



Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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