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Resolution to Commemorate 2019 Workers Memorial Day in San Francisco

Whereas, Workers Memorial Day commemorates workers who have been injured or killed on the job in the US and around the world; and

Whereas, each year thousands of workers are killed and millions more suffer injury or illness on the job, and

Whereas, workers health and safety is under threat as the government has cut back OSHA inspectors and inspections both nationally and in California; and

Whereas, the Trump administration has nominated former FedEx vice president Scott Mugno to head OSHA; and

Whereas, FedEx has a record of violating health and safety protections for the drivers and other workers, thus threatening the public; and

Whereas, FedEx has retaliated against OSHA whistleblowers who tried to ensure health and safety measures at this company; and

Whereas, former SFLC delegate/AFGE steward Darrell Whitman--a lawyer and OSHA investigator who worked for Federal OSHA and the Whistleblower Protection Program--was bullied and illegally terminated; and

Whereas, Darrell Whitman is still fighting for his job back and protection for Federal and State OSHA workers whose job is to protect the health and safety of workers and the public; and

Whereas, workers around the world including injured Colombian GM workers, are fighting for healthcare and compensation for their injuries; and

Whereas, workers are also being contaminated by toxins and chemicals, such as Monsanto Round-up owned by Bayer and this product, which causes cancer, continues to be sold and used by workers and consumers in California; and

Whereas, industrial illness is a growing danger to workers' health and longevity;

Therefore be it Resolved, that the San Francisco Labor Council endorses San Francisco Workers Memorial Day, which will be held on Saturday, April 27, at ILWU Local 34 at 801 2nd St. in San Francisco at 7:30 p.m., and

Therefore be it Further Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council urge all locals and delegates to attend this event to commemorate workers injured and killed on the job and also urge OSHA to reinstate inspector and AFGE steward Darrell

Whitman to his position and that the Council will inform our federal representatives that discrimination and retaliation against conscientious OSHA employees and whistleblowers must end and that Cal-OSHA must be fully staffed in order to effectively carry out their important work, and

Therefore be it Finally Resolved that this Council urge the California Attorney General to move toward halting the continued distribution of Round-up, which harms workers and the public in California.

Adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on April 8, 2019.

OPEIU 29 AFL-CIO