



PORTLAND JOBS WITH JUSTICE • C/O AFSCME COUNCIL 75 • 6025 E. BURNSIDE STREET • PORTLAND, OR 97215
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November 25, 2007

Dear Jobs with Justice Member Organization:

We write to invite you to join us at our **Grinch of the Year Holiday Party on Saturday, December 15th at 7pm, at the Peace House, 2116 NE 18th Ave.**

There are some great contenders for this coveted award, deciding will surely be difficult. Should it be Kathy Minberg--the Texas terror over at PPSD, Patricia Smith from Unitus, Earl "Free Trade" Blumenauer, John Wilson of Beef Borthwest, the CEO of Freightliner, the Dept. of Homeland Security, or the Multnomah Education Service District? So many choices—and you can write in others. This award is so important that the police usually show up at the surprise presentation ceremony!

Figure out who you want to support, then come on down and buy some votes. That's right—the votes are for sale—we like to call it "corporate-style democracy". We are working on convincing Alberto Gonzalez to step out of retirement to help oversee the election.

You can help by letting folks know, and/or buying a group of tickets (and votes) for your members. Also, please post or distribute the enclosed flyer, or announce it in your newsletter or to your email list. We would love to see folks from all 85 of our member organizations!

We have a lot going on right now—fighting the 30% wage cut for PPS Custodians, supporting workers at the Hilton, preparing to mobilize for the impending strike at MESD, and more—and we need your help to ensure that we are able to be there whenever we're needed. Help spread the word and ensure the success of this event!

Thanks!

Chris Ferlazzo
Portland Jobs with Justice



Join Jobs with Justice as we celebrate the holidays with a

Grinch of the Year Party

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 7 PM

THE PEACE HOUSE • 2116 NE 18TH AVE

Vote for Grinch of the Year!

Tickets \$10 • Children free • No one turned away for lack of funds

Striking workers get in free • Ten votes for Grinch of the Year and a beverage (one per person) with every ticket!

Purchase more votes at the party • Corporate-style democracy: the more you spend, the more votes you have.

Net proceeds benefit Jobs with Justice • Info: 503.236.5573

GRINCH OF THE YEAR NOMINEES 2007

Cathy Minberg – PPSD

Patricia Smith, Unitus CEO

MESD Board

Rep. Earl “Free Trade” Blumenauer

Department of Homeland Security

John Wilson, Beef Northwest

Chris Patterson, Freightliner CEO

Cathy Grinchberg "Texas' other village idiot."

Portland Public Schools Chief Operations Officer Cathy Minberg made history in the Houston Independent School District for her work to get Rod Paige hired as Superintendent. Paige went on to become Bush-appointed Secretary of Education. During their tenure as HISD administrators they were instrumental in outsourcing living wage jobs for the district's service employees. When Cathy was run out of Texas, she landed right here in Portland and promptly proposed a **30% wage cut** to Portland school custodians. Let's show Cathy how in Oregon, public interest will always prevail over corporate profit. Send Cathy Grinchberg back to Texas!

Patricia Smith, Unitus CEO

Patricia Smith is the CEO of Unitus Community Credit Union, where management is waging a decertification campaign against CWA Local 7901. She's checking her list of union-busting tactics: Lying about the Union only wanting your dues? Check! Pay for performance without guarantees? Check! Touting her "open door" policy while refusing to meet with the Union? Check! Holding mandatory anti-Union meetings and one-on-one meetings? Check! Bombarding employees with anti-Union messages everyday? Check! Getting 62% salary increases over the same period when the employees gained 3%? Check! Vote for Pat for Grinch? Check!

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MESD Board

The MESD (Multnomah Education Service District's) Board of Directors has been AWOL for the last two contract negotiations while their AFSCME 1995 employees suffered through endless stalling tactics and intransigence that forced bargaining to last far beyond contract expiration dates. Not only did this board hire and then approve of the union busting tactics employed by infamous perennial Grinch candidate Bruce Zagar, but their sole representative on the management negotiating team expressed the opinion that their workforce could look for jobs elsewhere if they didn't like the miserly deal they were being offered. Let them eat cake, is the message this sends to dedicated loyal workers, many of whom must work second and third jobs as their ESD paychecks get guillotined.

Rep. Earl "Free Trade" Blumenauer

Blumenauer has been hard at work alienating his constituents with his Grinch-like work on a number of issues. Most people in his district, and even in his own neighborhood, want the Bush trade agenda scrapped—instead we got Earl's "new direction on trade", with some nice sounding language on worker's rights, and the suggestion that labor supported the agreement. Unfortunately, the nice sounding language isn't very strong, and Earl's suggestion that labor backs the deal is hogwash. Another issue that is pretty popular in Earl's district is impeachment, however he refused to address the question at a standing room only town hall, and recently voted against it. While he is good on some issues, his positions on the fundamental issues of global economics and constitutional democracy make him a worthy candidate for Grinch of the Year!

John Wilson, Beef Northwest

John Wilson is an owner of Beef Northwest feedlots. He is also a major partner in Wilson Beef Company which raises cattle for, and is a member of Country Natural Beef. 100% of Country Natural Beef goes through the Beef NW feedlot in Boardman, OR. Beef NW also has feedlots in Nyssa, OR and Quincy, WA. There are many safety and other issues in the feedlots. John Wilson refuses to talk to the UFW who has a majority of workers who desire them to represent them. Beef NW does not tell the truth to its workers, and has engaged a local priest to help fight the union. Bottom line – Grinch should be John Wilson's middle name as that is exactly what he really is.

Chris Patterson, CEO Freightliner LLC, "NAFTA Grinch"

Who stole our jobs? Chris Patterson, CEO of Freightliner LLC (officially Daimler Trucks North America, as of 2008), announced in person to an assembly of Freightliner Truck Plant workers that Freightliner trucks would no longer be made in Portland. On March 30, 800 union workers were laid off, and the last Freightliner truck rolled down the assembly line. The trucks are now built in a plant in Mexico, near Mexico City and a second plant near Monterey is under construction. The remaining 900 union workers are assembling Western Star brand trucks but are only working 3 weeks out of each month for a lack of orders. The Mexico City plant is running at capacity. And now headquarters jobs are being moved from Portland too! Here's to Chris Patterson, the NAFTA Grinch of the Year, for Stealing our jobs!

Department of Homeland Security

Last Summer, agents from ICE—a division of Homeland Security—descended upon workers at Del Monte Foods in a work place raid, arresting over a hundred workers and separating families in just a few hours. More recently, they tried to attach a letter to Social Security "no match letters" that are sent out to fix flaws in the the Social Security data base. Even though there are over 17 million known errors in the database, this letter would require an employer to fire a worker within 90 days or face a severe penalty if the number is not "fixed". So far this letter has been defeated in the courts but they are threatening to come back with a new proposal in March. Homeland security is trying to find ways to intimidate and criminalize workers while at the same time providing employers with the tools to make sure that workers don't speak out and exercise their right to organize!