

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 26, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Abruzzo General Counsel National Labor Relations Board 1015 Half Street, SE Washington, D.C. 20570-001

Dear Ms. Abruzzo:

We write regarding the ongoing strike involving PG Publishing Co., Inc. d/b/a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (PPG) and striking Post-Gazette workers in Allegheny County and the rising level of tension between both parties. Following a physical altercation along the picket line, we urge the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to investigate any pending unfair labor practice charges from the ongoing labor dispute between PPG and PPG workers quickly and thoroughly to resolve any outstanding charges. Under the supervision of the NLRB, we hope that both parties can return to the bargaining table and return to contract talks in good faith.

Workers have been on strike since October of 2022 seeking a new collective bargaining agreement with PPG. The workers have been in contract talks with PPG since 2017, but in 2020 PPG declared that negotiations reached an impasse, and PPG's workers have been working without a collective bargaining agreement ever since. To date, there are over 20 open unfair labor practice charges filed against PPG. This January, an administrative law judge decision found that PPG had not bargained in good faith and ruled that PPG must restore the previously negotiated contract and start bargaining within 15 days of the order. PPG has appealed the decision. PPG workers remain on strike and on picket lines at PPG facilities.

On March 11, 2023, a driver employed by PPG and two striking workers on the picket line were involved in a verbal confrontation. The confrontation turned physical and resulted in injuries for the two striking workers, one of whom was badly injured and required surgery for a broken jaw. Police were also called to investigate the scene following the incident.<sup>2</sup> We urge the NLRB to expedite its processing and investigation of any outstanding unfair labor practice charges to prevent any more escalation on the picket line and restore labor peace.

Please keep our offices informed as you continue to investigate the situation between PPG and PPG workers. Thank you in advance for your attention to this important request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pittsburgh Post-Gazette union members "energized" by National Labor Relations Board ruling; paper plans to appeal. WITF. (2023, January 31). Retrieved March 22, 2023, from <a href="https://www.witf.org/2023/01/30/pittsburg-post-gazette-union-members-energized-by-national-labor-relations-board-ruling-paper-plans-to-appeal/">https://www.witf.org/2023/01/30/pittsburg-post-gazette-union-members-energized-by-national-labor-relations-board-ruling-paper-plans-to-appeal/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bortz, S. (2023, March 13). *Police called to incident between striking worker and delivery driver at Post-Gazette facility on the South Side*. CBS News. Retrieved March 22, 2023, from <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/police-called-to-incident-between-striking-workers-and-delivery-driver-at-post-gazette-facility-on-the-south-side/">https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/police-called-to-incident-between-striking-workers-and-delivery-driver-at-post-gazette-facility-on-the-south-side/</a>

## Sincerely,

John Fetterman United States Senator

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Robert P. Casey, Jr.

United States Senator