



UHP University Health Professionals
LOCAL 3837 AFT/AFTCT/AFL-CIO

UHP Newsline

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Standing Together to Withstand Janus Ruling

Those who oppose collective bargaining are celebrating what they believe to be a crippling blow to the labor movement.

Truth is, the June 27 finding by the U.S. Supreme Court in favor of the plaintiff in the *Janus Vs. AFSCME* case can only destroy our union if we let it.

The conservative majority overturned a 41-year precedent of enabling public employee unions to collect “fair share” fees from those who decline membership but still benefit from the contract negotiated on their behalf.

Our foes are counting on organized labor’s house to divide and collapse on itself. But what they don’t want to admit is, members of the unions under attack—including UHP—control their own destiny.

How? By simply understanding the value of our union and the power of our collective voice. It’s that collective voice that has led to fair wages, safe working conditions, health care and retirement, and other workers’ rights—raising standards for all working people, benefitting those we serve and strengthening our communities.

Once we realize this, it’s easy to also realize that standing together to keep our union strong is worth the fight. Nothing about this Supreme Court ruling prevents us from sticking with our union. By doing so, we demonstrate the resilience of the labor movement, taking a stand not only for ourselves but also for all working people and by extension, our communities.



Supreme Court—(from left) Chris DeFrancesco, Trisha Faraday, Michelle Proper, and Shawn Brown. Among those standing with us is Ned Lamont, candidate for governor. (Photo by Matt O’Connor)



“Janus is not the end of us. It’s only the end if we let them win.”

PRESIDENT’S CORNER: ‘Stand With Us’

The *Janus* case and the “Right to Work” (for Less) advocates are bigger than just our union. They’re about the labor movement as a whole.

So this month I’m yielding my space to AFT National President Randi Weingarten. Please see “**Don’t Count Us Out**” on Page 2 of this newsletter. My message to you this month comes by video, where I discuss what’s next for us after *Janus*: bit.ly/1806Janus. Please watch and share!

—In Solidarity, Bill Garrity

AFT Prez Weingarten: 'Don't Count Us Out'

Following is from AFT President Randi Weingarten's letter to members June 27, 2018:

The Supreme Court may have ruled against us today, but don't count us out.

The right-wing extremists on the Supreme Court showed their true colors today. Their thirst for rigging the economy toward the powerful trumped the aspirations and needs of communities and the people who serve them.

But, despite this decision, **workers are sticking with the union because unions are still the best vehicle working people have to get ahead.**

Our union comprises some of the hardest-working and most compassionate people in the country... **Together**, through our union, we fight not just for ourselves but for the people we serve. When the Supreme Court overturns 40 years of precedent in an effort to weaken our ability to bargain for what we need, then we have to **recommit ourselves to standing together in solidarity.**

Let's be clear, the *Janus* case was about defunding unions. It was about who will have power in our country—working people or big corporate interests. That's why the case was being funded by wealthy donors and corporate interests. Why? Because **unions fight for a better life for people, and corporate interests see that as a threat to their power.**

Strong unions create strong communities. We will continue fighting, caring, showing up and voting to **make possible what is impossible for individuals acting alone.** And we will continue to make the case—in the halls of statehouses and the court of public opinion, at our workplaces and communities, and at the ballot box in November—through organizing, activism, and members recommitting to their union.

When we fight for resources for schools, we're fighting for students. When we fight for safe staffing standards for nurses, we're fighting for patients. **When we have the resources to do our jobs, all of society benefits.** We may be a threat to the power of wealthy corporate interests, but by sticking together, we are stronger than their attacks.

Let's show the world that we're proud to be union members. **You can start right now: Tell them you're sticking with the union. Show the people attacking unions that you value your freedom to have a better life and your freedom to have a union:** bit.ly/AFTstick.

In unity,
Randi Weingarten, AFT President

“”

Don't count us out.

While today the thirst for power trumped the aspirations and needs of communities and the people who serve them, workers are sticking with the union because unions are still the best vehicle working people have to get ahead.



A Union of Professionals

RANDI WEINGARTEN, AFT PRESIDENT

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

July 9, 5 p.m., UHP Office

Executive Committee

July 13-16, Pittsburgh

AFT National Convention

Delegates: bit.ly/18AFTnat

Aug. 3, 11:30a-1:30p, location TBD

UHP Ice Cream Social

Aug. 5, 5 p.m., Dunkin Donuts Park

UHP Day at the Yard Goats

bit.ly/18UHPgoats

Aug. 9, noon, Onyiuke Dining Room

Union Rep Assembly

(Note: July meeting is canceled)

Aug. 13, 5 p.m., UHP Office

Executive Committee

Aug. 18, High Meadow, North Granby.

UHP Summer Outing

bit.ly/1808HiMeadow

Aug. 28, 5 p.m., UHP Office

Steward Committee

(Note: July meeting is canceled)

UHP online calendar: bit.ly/uhpca