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APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL
SEP 2 1997
OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

AMENDED

RESOLUTION NO. 97-509

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING SACRAMENTO'S
JANITORS**

WHEREAS, the City of Sacramento has a vision of a just economy that benefits all members of our community; and

WHEREAS, the labor movement has, by its effective leadership and efforts in education advocacy and organizing, drawn attention to the working conditions of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sacramento and its citizens strongly support the economic, social and human rights of Sacramento's janitors; and

WHEREAS, it is time today to salute one of the fastest growing and least valued occupations in the United States today; janitors, who deserve decent wages, benefits and respect for the vitally important work they do; and

WHEREAS, janitors have the right to unionize for the purposes of collective bargaining to improve their standard of living; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council take no position on any particular labor dispute or election involving any particular employer of a bargaining unit; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council recognize organized labor's right to request a card-check union recognition alternative, and management's right to request an election for the purposes of collective bargaining; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council encourage amiable and mutually beneficial agreements between labor and management which in turn will produce an economically competitive and socially beneficial business climate in the City of Sacramento;

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO that the City of Sacramento does hereby support the rights of janitors to earn decent wages, to have job security, basic health care benefits and safe working conditions.

Mayor

City Clerk

(SEAL)

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

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Telephone (510) 632-4242

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OWEN A. MARRON

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY
AFL-CIO

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Central Labor Council of Alameda County

AFL-CIO



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RICHARD K. GROULX,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Emeritus

MEDIA RELEASE

JUDITH M. GOFF,
President

OWEN A. MARRON,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

September 1, 1997
For immediate release

LABOR TO DEMAND AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION INTO THE AUGUST 27, 1997 ARREST OF JANITOR DEMONSTRATORS IN SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

Outraged by the unwarranted arrests of thirty trade unionists on August 27, 1997 in Sacramento, CA the Central Labor Council of Alameda County adopted the enclosed resolution condemning the highest city officials and other Sacramento area politicians for their complicity in subverting the rights of workers to freely choose a union at Somers Building Maintenance.

Owen Marron, secretary-treasurer of the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, representing 138 affiliated local unions with over 70,000 members, and a vice President of the 2 million member California Labor Federation will be taking the issue before the State Legislature on Tuesday, September 2, 1997, and will later go before the Sacramento City Council that night to call for an independent investigation of the incident, and the complicity of high city officials on behalf of Somers Building Maintenance.

"Over the past three years, since Justice for Janitors has been attempting to organize the workers at Somers, we have seen a pattern of constitutional and labor law violations by the company, and now we have seen the blatant interference in Justice for Janitors rights on behalf of the Somers workers by the political forces in Sacramento.

"We have long suspected the covert support of local elected representatives on behalf of this law-breaking company, but now we see overt actions and policies directly aimed at subverting the rights of workers and unions in Sacramento on behalf of this outlaw company," Marron said. "The Labor Movement in Alameda County will not let this pass without bringing it to the attention of the public and the decent elected representatives of the people of California."



Central Labor Council of Alameda County

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Telephone (510) 632-4242

RICHARD K. GROULX,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Emeritus

JUDITH M. GOFF,
President

OWEN A. MARRON,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE VIOLATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF TRADE UNIONISTS IN SACRAMENTO AUGUST 27, 1997

WHEREAS The Justice for Janitors campaign to organize the workers at Somers Building Maintenance in the Sacramento area has been met with three years of consistent and continual violations of labor law by the company;

AND WHEREAS Somers Building Maintenance has constantly evaded punishment for its proven illegal activities against its employees and the Justice for Janitors campaign;

AND WHEREAS it has become increasingly clear that Somers Building Maintenance is well connected in various political circles, including but not exclusive to the Mayor and City Manager of Sacramento. Somers has utilized those relationships to escape its deserved punishment for its repeated blatant violations of the rights of the workers at Somers. Somers has conducted an on going attack on their workers' Constitutional rights of freedom of association and the workers additional rights to organize into a union of their choice as guaranteed under the National Labor Relations Act;

AND WHEREAS the influence of Somers Building Maintenance appears to reach into the highest offices of the Sacramento city and county governments which have obviously set a policy for the Police Department and the Sacramento County Sheriffs Department as witnessed by the arrests of thirty unionists Wednesday, August 27, 1997;

AND WHEREAS the arrests of the thirty unionists was a totally unwarranted action against individuals exercising their constitutional rights to peacefully protest as covered under the First Amendment of the Constitution and the legal right to protest on a public walkway. The thirty

unionists were arrested and held in jail for hours before due process was provided. This was clearly in retaliation for previous action of the Justice for Janitors campaign;

AND WHEREAS among those arrested were the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the two million member California Labor Federation, Art Pulaski; Owen Marron, secretary-treasurer of the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, Amy Dean, secretary-treasurer of the South Bay Central Labor Council (these two labor Councils have a combined membership of over 140,000 trade unionists); Barry Lubovisky, secretary of the Alameda County Building and Construction Trades Council and Jim Murphy, secretary of the Sacramento Building and Construction Trades Council, with a combined membership of over 30,000 trade unionists;

AND WHEREAS the arrests and lengthy incarceration was an abuse of police authority and a squandering of public tax money done on behalf of Somers Building Maintenance;

AND WHEREAS, this kind of response by law enforcement to peaceful demonstrators has been unseen in California in decades and harks back to tactics of Sheriff Bull Conner and the policies of the Wallace Administration in Alabama during the civil rights demonstrations in the 1960's;

AND WHEREAS, this blatant use of law enforcement on behalf of a proven law-breaking company and at the behest of the Mayor and City Manager of Sacramento smacks of conspiracy to violate the civil rights specifically of the Justice for Janitors campaign, and, in general, of all trade unionists in California.

THEREFOR LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Central Labor Council of Alameda County condemns the policies of the Sacramento city government for aiding and abetting Somers Building Maintenance in the violation of the civil rights of all trade unionists through its actions and policies that led to events on August 27, 1997;

AND LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the Central Labor Council of Alameda County demands an independent investigation into the actions of the managements of the Sacramento Police and Sheriff's Departments, the city government of Sacramento, especially the Mayor and City Manager, to determine their complicity in and cooperation with Somers Building Maintenance in its efforts to illegally violate the rights of

Somers workers, the Justice for Janitors campaign and all right minded individuals who believe in the right of workers to organize into the union of their choice, and that this investigation be conducted by a committee comprised of one member appointed by the Sacramento City Council, one member appointed by the California Labor Federation and one member selected by the President pro Tem of the California Senate.

AND LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED THAT the Central Labor Council of Alameda County calls upon the California State Legislature to conduct hearings into the actions of Somers Building Maintenance and the complicity of some local officials on the company's behalf;

AND LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that the Central Labor Council of Alameda County calls on the Sacramento Central Labor Council and all other AFL-CIO bodies to adopt this resolution.

*ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL
LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY AFL-CIO SUNDAY,
AUGUST 31 1997.*

TNG52/AFL-CIO

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WHERE, janitors have the right to unionize for the purposes of collective bargaining to improve their standard of living; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council take no position on any particular labor dispute or election involving any particular employer of a bargaining unit; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council recognize organized labor's right to request a card-check union recognition alternative, and management's right to request an election for the purposes of collective bargaining; and

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