

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 22

December 17, 2004

TO ALL LOCAL CHAIRPERSONS:

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

As an on-going process - in the General Chairman's office, we send out Circular Letters as circumstances dictate in regard to issues that are of importance to all of our Membership. We are requesting that you read these documents at your Union Meetings for the Membership's benefit and also place them on bulletin boards for those Members who cannot attend the Union Meeting. Incorporated below are issues of importance for our Membership.

LS **UTU efforts to reaffiliate with AFL-CIO:**

The UTU website on December 16, 2004, featured an open letter from President Paul Thompson to the members, relating the efforts of the UTU to reaffiliate with the AFL-CIO. It should come as no surprise that the Teamsters and the BLET are opposed to this reaffiliation. The BMW, since coming under Teamster control, has now joined in their chorus of opposition.

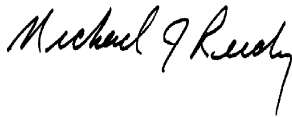
What is most important to realize is that many labor organizations are supportive of the efforts of UTU. You will find attached, in addition to President Thompson's message, letters of support from the Amalgamated Transit Union, the Communications Workers of America, the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, the International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers, and the Sheet Metal Workers International Association.

Also attached are letters of support from the State AFL-CIO organizations of Georgia, North Dakota, Illinois, North Carolina, Louisiana, and Texas. In addition, the Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO has endorsed our effort to reaffiliate.

Mr. Milton Bahr, President of the Communications Workers of America, was requested to withdraw his support for the UTU by IBT president Hoffa. Mr. Bahr's response should be read and considered by every railroad employee. Mr. Bahr is no stranger to the activities of the IBT. He and his family were the victims of harassment, illegal wiretaps, and threatened violence perpetrated by the Teamsters. With support from unionists such as Mr. Bahr, I feel the efforts of the UTU to reaffiliate will succeed.

Trusting this information will aid you in keeping our Membership informed of issues confronting us and with best personal wishes, I remain

Fraternal ly yours,



**Michael J. Reedy
General Chairman, G. C. A.**

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Attachments

cc: Paul Thompson, President - UTU
Rick Marceau, Assistant President - UTU
Dan Johnson, III - General Secretary/Treasurer - UTU