

**INTERNATIONAL
LONGSHORE &
WAREHOUSE UNION
AFL-CIO**



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Bay Area Labor Movement to Rally in Support of Alcatraz Ferry Workers

(SAN FRANCISCO) The Bay Area labor movement will turn out en masse to support the union Alcatraz Ferry workers **Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10:00 a.m.** for a march and rally in front of the **Hornblower Cruises dock at San Francisco's Pier 31½.**

Some 50 union ferry workers lost their jobs in September when the Bush administration's National Park Service (NPS) illegally awarded the ferry contract to Hornblower Yachts. Members of the Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU), the ILWU's Marine Division, and the Masters, Mates and Pilots (MMP), had been operating the Alcatraz run safely and professionally under union contracts since the NPS turned the former high security island prison into a tourist attraction in 1973 until this year when the contract expired and NPS picked the known anti-union Hornblower. The union workers have lost not only their family wage jobs, but their health care coverage too. Payments into their pensions have also stopped.

"We want Hornblower to hire back our skilled and experienced workers and negotiate a fair contract with the unions," said IBU San Francisco Bay Regional Director Marina Secchitano.

Hornblower has not only refused to hire the former ferry workers and sign a contract with the union, it is appealing legal rulings by the U.S. District Court and the Dept. of Labor requiring it to pay "prevailing wages." Hornblower has also ignored the Port of San Francisco's repeated requests for information on the changes it is making to its ferry pier and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors' and neighborhood groups' calls for review of the traffic and environmental impacts of its relocated business.

"They've displayed tremendous arrogance, acting as if the law does not apply to them," said MMP California Branch Agent Ray Shipway.

Unionists and their supporters will gather at the Harry Bridges Plaza in front of the Ferry Building at 9:15 a.m. and march to Pier 31½. ILWU Local 10 longshore workers, who have rescheduled their monthly membership meeting for Saturday to join the demonstration, will march from their hall near Fisherman's Wharf to the Hornblower dock.

(more)

Featured speakers at the rally, showing the breadth of support the union ferry workers have, include:

Alan Cote, IBU National President
Marina Secchitano, IBU San Francisco Bay Regional Director
Captain Ray Shipway, MMP California Branch Agent
David Gonzales, ILWU longshore Local 10 President
Rich Cavalli, ILWU marine clerks Local 34 President
Fred Pecker, ILWU warehouse Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer
Gunnar Lundeberg, President Maritime Trades
Anthony Poplawski, President MFOW
Chuck Mack, Teamster International Vice President
FX Crowley, IATSE
Mike Casey, UNITE HERE Local 2 President
Dan Bernal, Director, U.S. Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi's Office
Michael Theriault, SF Building Trades Secretary-Treasurer
Irwin Lum, Transport workers
Tony Gonzales, International Indian Treaty Council
Olga Miranda, SEIU 87 President
Roxanne Sanchez SEIU 790 President
Pat Karinen, Pile Drivers, Senior Representative
Yvonne Williams, ATU 192 President
Sharon Cornu, Alameda Labor Council

Unconfirmed:

Rep of SF Labor Council

Visit www.ilwu.org for more information about IBU and MMP Alcatraz ferry workers.

The ILWU represents 60,000 working women and men in five states (California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii) and Canada. Through more than 60 locals ILWU unites longshore workers, warehouse workers, watchmen, clerks, ferry and tugboat workers, tourism industry workers and agricultural workers.