

SCAL CARWASH WORKERS UNIONIZATION UPDATE

December 01, 2008/ L.A. TIMES

Los Angeles – Carwash workers in Los Angeles won an important first step in their legal struggle with a Hollywood carwash owner. After an extensive investigation of charges filed by the carwash workers union, the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board has filed a formal complaint alleging that Vermont Hand Wash engaged in unfair labor practices by firing and harassing union supporters. Since last March, when workers first spoke out publicly about the appalling working conditions in LA carwashes and announced their intent to form a union, three workers have been fired and many others have been suffered harassment at the hands of carwash owners and management. The action by the National Labor Relations Board incorporated the charges filed by the Carwash Worker Organizing Committee of the United Steelworkers (CWOC), beginning on May 7, 2008. A trial before an Administrative Law Judge will commence February 19. If the carwash is found to have violated the law it will be subject to remedies such as payment of lost earnings, with interest, and reinstatement of the fired workers.