

MARITIME LABOR ALLIANCE



November 12, 2019

Mr. Raymond Jackson
President
Local 689, Amalgamated Transit Union
2701 Whitney Place
Forestville, MD 20747

Brothers and Sisters:

On behalf of the Maritime Labor Alliance, we want to express strong solidarity with the members of ATU Local 689 who are on strike against Transdev, the multinational private contractor WMATA hired to run the Cinder Bed Bus Garage in Lorton, Virginia.

It is shameful that Transdev and WMATA have created a two-tier workforce in which Cinder Bed workers receive significantly lower wages and almost non-existent benefits in comparison to other Metrobus workers. Transdev is notorious in the industry for pursuing profit at the expense of safety, service and workers' rights, and this is another appalling example of their nefarious exploits.

We applaud you as you stand up to the privatization that wreaks havoc on transit systems and creates worse conditions for workers and riders alike. We all must stand up to companies like Transdev and prevent them from continuing to shortchange communities across the United States and around the world.

The unity of organized labor is critical. The Maritime Labor Alliance stands in solidarity with ATU in your pursuit of a fair, reliable, affordable and safe transit system.

Together we fight, together we win!

Sincerely,

Don Marcus, President, MM&P
Marshall Ainley, President, M.E.B.A.
Kelly Anderson, President, ARA

Willie Adams, President, ILWU
Marina Secchitano, President, IBU