



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WAYNE P. DEANGELO

DEPUTY SPEAKER

ASSEMBLYMAN, 14TH DISTRICT

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April 14, 2016

Mr. Lowell McAdam

Chief Executive Officer

Verizon

140 West Street

New York, NY 10007

COMMITTEES
CHAIRMAN,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES
VICE-CHAIR,
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
COUNCIL ON ARMED FORCES
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Dear Mr. McAdam:

It is with great concern for the men and women who work for Verizon that I write to you today to urge an immediate resolution to the contract dispute that has culminated in the current strike. Having been on countless picket lines in my professional career, I know that this decision to strike could not have come lightly to these employees. They are taking a risk to protect their rights and dignity as employees in seeking fair and reasonable compensation in exchange for a consistent job well done. As the daily point of contact with Verizon customers, they are at the forefront of maintaining the company's relationships in the community.

I have reviewed statements by Verizon indicating issues where they are seeking to concessions from the unions -- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of NJ (IBEW) and Communications Workers of America. The most important issues of salary and health care benefits, while often the most complicated, need to be resolved immediately so that the financial stability and health of the employees are not hanging in the balance. I also believe that the additional issues such as dependent eligibility, disability, site consolidation also need to be prioritized to ensure that the employees are not personally penalized as a result of the company's financial decisions.

Furthermore, as chairman of the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, I also am greatly concerned about the impact that this stand-off will have on Verizon customers. While it is my understanding that there are contingency plans in place to strive to ensure no disruption of service, the expertise and abilities of the technicians, customer representatives, and other specialists cannot be replaced.

I offer myself to the Verizon employees on strike and to the company as a potential intermediary to resolve this impasse as soon as feasibly possible. Please feel free to reach out to me on this or any matter of concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wayne P. DeAngelo', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Assemblyman Wayne P. DeAngelo
Deputy Speaker
14th Legislative District