



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS  
AFL-CIO & CLC

501 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW, Suite 701, Washington, DC 20001  
202-239-4880 • FAX 202-239-4881 • [www.ifpte.org](http://www.ifpte.org)

**GREGORY J. JUNEMANN**  
President

**PAUL SHEARON**  
Secretary-Treasurer

May 30, 2014

**AREA  
VICE PRESIDENTS**

**Charlie Trembley**  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
NORTHEASTERN

**Dean Coate**  
WESTERN

**Joel Funfar**  
SPEEA

**Gay Henson**  
EASTERN FEDERAL

**Debbie Logsdon**  
SPEEA

**John Mader**  
WESTERN

**Sean P. McBride**  
ATLANTIC

**Thomas McCarty**  
SPEEA

**Gerald Newsome**  
ATLANTIC

**Michael Rudolf**  
MIDWESTERN

**Dr. Leland S. Stone**  
WESTERN FEDERAL

**Scott Travers**  
CANADIAN

**Andrew Weremy**  
CANADIAN

Misty Hughes-Newman, President  
IFPTE Local 161  
200-1 Wesley Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4C6

Dear President Hughes-Newman,

We are writing to ask for your participation in supporting the organizing efforts of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee - FLOC. As background, we refer you to the attached letter from FLOC President Velasquez.

FLOC represents the migrant workers who labor in the crop plantations located in America's Deep South and Midwest. Farm workers' pay scales are established by the agricultural enterprises which control the overall produce industries. The workers are brought into the US where they toil ten to twelve hours a day, six days a week with no benefits. Since there are no laws that apply to farm workers, their only hope of receiving anything resembling minimum wage is through FLOC's bargaining power.

FLOC's leaders use a combination of ingenious bargaining techniques and representational tactics in working on behalf of its community of forgotten laborers. Above all, however; FLOC's leaders use sheer dogged determination when dealing with behemoth agricultural enterprises and mega-corporations. The union's demands are simple – workers are to be paid a minimum wage and the shameful working conditions are to be improved. With no laws, little money, and few allies, the union faces a daunting task. But, sometimes, somehow, FLOC prevails.

With scant resources coming from its meager dues stream, FLOC operates on an extremely limited budget. The union must rely on support from allied organizations and contributing individuals in order to survive. It is for this reason we write to you.

At its Spring 2014 meeting, the IFPTE Executive Council passed a motion to forward a contribution of \$5,000 to FLOC to support its 2014 organizing campaign.

The Executive Council further authorized the Executive Officers to reach out to all of the Federation's Locals to solicit their support for FLOC's campaign. Toward that end, we are asking that Locals as well as individual members make contributions to FLOC's campaign.

The Federation will acknowledge such contributions with a matching contribution to a maximum of \$5,000. With this in mind, we request that any individuals who make tax-deductible contributions directly to FLOC via its website [www.floc.com](http://www.floc.com) inform the Federation's office of their contribution, so that the contribution can be matched by IFPTE.

The plight of the migrant farm workers is deserving of our compassion as well as our solidarity. We ask that you please contribute generously to this effort, and that you do so at your earliest convenience. Whether the contributions are large or small, all levels of support will be accepted with the same sincere gratitude.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and your prompt action.

In Solidarity,



Paul Shearon  
Secretary-Treasurer



Gregory J. Junemann  
President

PS/GJJ:kan

Enclosures