



September 13, 2017

Teamsters Joint Council 16 Sanctuary Union Resolution

Teamsters Joint Council 16 and its 27 affiliate Teamster local unions represent 120,000 workers in New York City, Long Island, the Hudson Valley, and Puerto Rico. We are committed to fighting for economic and racial justice for our members, both in the workplace and beyond. Many of our members are immigrants and today their communities are under attack. Joint Council 16 will continue to do all it can to protect Teamster members, immigrants, and the working class.

Whereas, Joint Council 16 will continue to enthusiastically embrace its responsibility to represent all of its members, regardless of race, immigration status, religion, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation and will not be impeded or intimidated from exercising that responsibility; and

Whereas, Joint Council 16 will do all it can to lawfully protect its members from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents that have been raiding and arresting immigrants on the flimsiest of pretexts, with no regard for how long they've lived in the U.S, how dependent their families are upon them, or their community ties; and

Whereas, Joint Council 16 is committed to ensuring that the local unions under its jurisdiction continue to be a safe and welcoming place for all members and their families regardless of their immigration status; and

Whereas, many cities, such as New York, have declared themselves Sanctuary Cities, and universities, such as Columbia, have declared themselves Sanctuary Campuses, where officials have vowed not volunteer the immigration status of their residents, workers, or students, or to cooperate with ICE.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Joint Council 16 declares itself a "Sanctuary Union." Joint Council 16 will protect the rights and safety of all of our membership regardless of immigration status;

- We will not voluntarily cooperate with federal agents in the prosecution or attempted deportation of Teamster members;
- We will not collect personal information from our members that may be used to challenge their immigration status;
- We will hold “Know Your Rights” trainings and share legal resources with our members;
- We will collectively bargain new contract language that strengthens workplace protections for immigrant members;
- We will continue to build alliances with others working to protect communities and the undocumented, and participate in protests in response to ICE raids or employer collaboration for the sake of union-busting;
- In response to the ending of the DACA program, we will commit to do all we can to push Congress to pass the DREAM Act;
- We proudly declare and will mobilize support for Sanctuary Unions, Sanctuary Cities, and Sanctuary Campuses.

Be it further resolved:

Joint Council 16 stands in solidarity with all communities under attack and understands that the time for unity is now. We stand united with all workers, particularly the most vulnerable among us. Solidarity is key to beating back the attacks on immigrants, workers, and unions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Miranda", is written over a horizontal line.

George Miranda, President