

Mr. Ronald Bauman
President
Baumann & Sons, Acme, Brookset Bus, Alert Coach
3355 Veterans Memorial Highway
Ronkonkoma, New York 11779

Dear Mr. Baumann:

As representatives of Long Island political, community and labor organizations we are shocked and dismayed by the treatment of your employees and the violation of their rights. We understand that on many occasions you have shorted workers pay and then have made it very difficult for them to recover the lost pay. We also understand that the health insurance benefit offered to workers is so expensive that few workers are able to afford it. We have learned that workers are not paid when they are sick and unable to come to work, that the worker seniority is often not respected, that there are unsafe working conditions and that workers are not paid for attending safety meetings.

In response to this treatment, the majority of your employees have joined together to form a union with the Teamsters Union in the hope of improving their jobs, protecting their families and securing their future. In reaction, you have taken abusive action to suppress their effort.

Among other activities you and your managers have illegally interrogated workers about their union support, have threatened workers and taken away hours of union supporters. So far seven unfair labor practice charges have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board. In addition you have hired union avoidance consultants at great expense to the taxpayers who are forcing workers to attend meetings against their will to listen to canned distortions about unions. The fact that your Company is supported in large part by public dollars makes your actions even more egregious.

Your bad conduct must stop. We ask that you have a heart! Specifically we ask that you change your course of conduct and respect the right of your employees to form a union of their choosing in an atmosphere free of coercion, discrimination and intimidation. We ask that you ensure that your supervisors take a neutral stance on the question of unionization and that your consultants be withdrawn so that the employees can make their own decisions on whether to form a union.

So far your employees have been highly successful in building strong union support. Your actions to suppress their efforts only creates bad will and lower morale. In fact, your actions have sparked additional pro-union sentiment. Again we urge you to have a heart and reconsider your position. We want your Company to succeed and believe we outline here a recipe for success to the Company, the employees and the community.

Sincerely,

Long Island Federation of Labor
Baumann, Acme, Brookset, Alert Workers Organizing
Committee
Dwayne Gregory, Suffolk County Legislator
International Brotherhood of Teamsters