

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

JAMES P. HOFFA
General President

25 Louisiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001



KEN HALL
General Secretary-Treasurer

202.624.6800
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October 9, 2015

Robert Miller, CEO
Albertsons Companies, Inc.
250 E. Parkcenter Blvd.
Boise, ID 83706

Dear Mr. Miller:

This letter is in response to Safeway's notification that it plans to close its grocery distribution center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Frankly, I am shocked that Safeway would send—with no prior discussion—a 60-day WARN notice to Teamsters members and their local unions. The 700 Teamster members at this facility worked for decades to make Safeway a healthy and profitable company in Maryland. Together, Safeway and the Teamsters have provided thousands of workers with good-paying jobs and benefits that support families, communities and the Prince George's County and Maryland economies.

In fact, in the late 1990's, cooperation between Safeway, state and county elected officials, and the Teamsters helped bring this brand-new facility to Upper Marlboro and keep good jobs in Maryland. Safeway received \$2 million dollars from Maryland taxpayers for building the facility and obtained millions in concessions from its employees over the past 15 years to defray the costs of building this \$91 million state-of-the-art distribution center.

Now 700 livelihoods are on the brink of destruction in Maryland. Safeway plans to move these family-supporting jobs out of state into Pennsylvania, destroying the lives and fabric of central Maryland communities. The few jobs that Safeway plans to keep in Maryland are being moved to a facility owned by C&S Wholesale Grocers, a grocery

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company with a notorious record of casting thousand of workers aside, destroying decent jobs and leaving taxpayers and communities with the task of picking up the pieces and cleaning up the economic fallout.

The very workers whose concessions helped pay for your success in Maryland and who are now facing unemployment have not been told whether they'll be offered jobs at other locations. Even worse, the closure is planned to occur just 19 days before Christmas. This is shameful.

Safeway wasn't always the kind of company that treated local communities this way. Things have not been the same since the private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management bought Safeway.

I believe there are other options that have not yet been explored. I am asking you to enact a 180-day moratorium on the closure while your staff, Maryland and Prince George's County public officials and Teamsters-appointed experts meet to discuss alternatives, with the goal of saving good Maryland jobs. The Safeway brand owes the people of Maryland—and the workers, the shoppers and the communities who have supported Safeway for decades—the chance to find a just solution. This cooperative approach worked before and I am confident it will work again. A 180-day delay is not much to ask of Safeway considering the sacrifices these workers have made and the generosity towards Safeway by the people and the government of Maryland.

Please contact Teamsters Warehouse Division Director Steve Vairma at (202) 624-8736 as soon as possible so that we can move forward to find a positive solution for Maryland workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Hoffa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James P. Hoffa
General President

cc: Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland
Brian Frosh, Attorney General of Maryland
Rushern Baker III, Prince George's County Executive

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U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski

U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin

U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer, Maryland's 5th District

U.S. Representative Donna Edwards, Maryland's 4th District

U.S. Representative Chris Van Hollen, Maryland's 8th District

Richie Brooks, President, Teamsters Local Union 730

Thomas Ratliff, President, Teamsters Local Union 639

Ferline Buie, President, Teamsters Local Union 922; President, Teamsters Joint Council 55; Teamsters International Vice President

Steve Vairma, Director, Teamsters Warehouse Division; Teamsters International Vice President

Marc Perrone, International President, United Food and Commercial Workers International

Mark Federici, President, UFCW Local 400

George Murphy, Jr., President, UFCW Local 27

Jos Williams, President, Metro Washington Council AFL-CIO

Robert Edwards, President and CEO, Safeway, Inc.

Rick Cohen, Chairman and CEO, C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc.

Stephen Feinberg, CEO, Cerberus Capital Management, L.P.