

**RESOLUTION ON THE AGREEMENT TO SETTLE THE
1988 LAWSUIT BROUGHT AGAINST THE TEAMSTERS
BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THEREBY
ENDING THE 1989 CONSENT DECREE**

WHEREAS, in 1988, the United States government filed a civil RICO complaint against the International Brotherhood of Teamsters;

WHEREAS, in 1989, the consent decree was created as a result of the settlement of the 1988 civil RICO complaint United States v. International Brotherhood of Teamsters;

WHEREAS, the objectives set forth were the establishment of a fully democratic, one-member-one-vote general election procedure for electing International officers; and, the elimination of corrupt elements within the union;

WHEREAS, as part of this settlement, a federally-mandated Independent Review Board (IRB) was established to investigate corruption and evaluate the actions taken by the IBT to adjudicate allegations of improper behavior;

WHEREAS, for the past 25 years the IBT has worked in conjunction with the government and the IRB to accomplish the objectives set forth in the consent decree.

WHEREAS, General President James P. Hoffa declared his goal of removing government oversight of the IBT and returning IBT control to the members during his first inaugural speech in 1999;

WHEREAS, delegates to the 2001 International Convention overwhelmingly ratified Constitutional changes submitted by General President James P. Hoffa and his administration known as the “Democracy Package” that enshrined the members’ right to vote in the IBT Constitution;

WHEREAS, the IBT has engaged the government negotiations to achieve a settlement of the 1988 Lawsuit for more than ten years;

WHEREAS, all the objectives of the original settlement have been met;

WHEREAS, the IBT has been under the consent decree for more than 25 years, in which time significant progress has been made to institute strong democratic reforms and eliminate corrupt elements;

WHEREAS, given the significant and positive progress the IBT has made in meeting the objectives of the consent decree, now is the time to return the union's management and control to the elected leadership of the IBT and the rank-and-file members.

WHEREAS, the GEB previously provided General Counsel Brad Raymond with the authority to negotiate a final agreement with the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York;

WHEREAS, General Counsel Brad Raymond has successfully negotiated a final agreement with the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York that will settle the 1988 Lawsuit and end the 1989 Consent Decree;

WHEREAS, this agreement ensures that the members' right to vote is protected and that the IBT will continue to fight any form of corruption;

WHEREAS, there will be a five-year transition period. In the first year, the IRB will be maintained. After the first year, the IRB will be replaced by two independent disciplinary officers, an independent investigations officer and an independent review officer. The independent investigations officer will investigate allegations of wrongdoing throughout our union. The independent review officer will monitor the IBT's actions in disciplinary cases;

WHEREAS, elections shall continue to be conducted pursuant to rules and procedures established by the consent decree and codified in the "Democracy Package" at the 2001 International Convention, designed to ensure a fair, free and democratic election that will be overseen by an independent election supervisor;

WHEREAS, if the government believes that the settlement agreement has been violated, the government may petition the court for appropriate relief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the GEB fully supports the agreement to settle the 1988 civil RICO lawsuit United States v. International Brotherhood of Teamsters;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the GEB will ensure the terms of the agreement are adhered to; that the members' right to vote for International Union officers shall remain inviolate; and, that corrupt elements will never have a place in the IBT;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that after 25 years of government oversight the IBT has now been returned to the members.