



Thirteen Months On, Verizon Still Demanding Deep Cuts

After a year of stalled negotiations with workers in Verizon East, it is clear that the company's strategy is to destroy middle-class jobs and roll back benefits earned over decades of hard work by CWA and IBEW members at the bargaining table and on the streets.

Verizon is a \$100 billion company that made \$10 billion in profits last year and rewarded top executives with millions in raises and bonuses while continuing to demand massive cuts to workers' wages and benefits. Proposals on the table demonstrate a basic lack of good faith, sense of fairness, or respect for the workers who've made the Company so profitable. For example:

- Wages that don't keep up with the cost of living
- Higher health care costs and fewer benefits for current workers and retirees
- Pensions gutted for those currently covered and no pensions at all for new hires
- Job Security becomes a thing of the past
- More outsourcing of good union jobs

And the fight for fairness is not restricted to the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast. CWA members in the Southwest began bargaining in July and are facing the same demands by the company. Their contract expired on August 11, and has been extended to August 25. Workers in the West are preparing to bargain in early 2013 and are expecting the same attacks by *Verigreedy*.

Right now, representatives of the unions and the company are in round the clock mediation sessions in Washington, DC, in a process being overseen by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Campaign for Good Jobs at Verizon Escalates

The stakes couldn't be higher for workers, their families, and the communities that depend on reliable landline and FiOS service.

Starting on August 2, workers throughout the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast launched a massive mobilization effort. They are organizing practice pickets, rallies, and other worksite actions.

They have invited union brothers and sisters and other allies to join them at selected sites for Solidarity Rallies every Thursday until they get a contract.

To find out about an action near you, go to StandUpToVerizon.com and click on "Find an Action Near You".

A National Call to ACTION on September 17

In the last year, fellow union members and other allies have stood shoulder-to-shoulder with CWA and IBEW members at Verizon in this historic fight. That solidarity has given workers and their families the strength to keep up the fight.

We are calling on our allies once again to turn out in record numbers on SEPTEMBER 17 to STAND UP TO VERIZON. Our goal is to turn up the heat on executives and members of the board of directors like never before, to persuade them to reach a fair contract with the workers who have made the company so profitable.

We ask that allies join us in actions at a variety of targets of importance to the company. We are going to hold Verizon executives and members of its Board of Directors accountable for their job-killing strategy. For example:

- 1. Worksites:** Practice picketing, entrance rallies, and a variety of actions will be taking place throughout the Mid-Atlantic, Northeast, and Southwest.
- 2. Verizon Wireless:** VZW stores remain an important target in this fight. We must organize actions with higher turnout and of longer duration at key high-volume stores.
- 3. Popular Community Bank:** Richard Carrión has been on the Verizon Board of Directors since 1997. He is President and Chief Executive Officer of banking company, Popular, Inc., the largest financial institution based in Puerto Rico, with consolidated assets of \$36.8 billion, total deposits of \$27.3 billion. There are 200 bank branches in the continental US and Puerto Rico.
- 4. Darden Restaurants:** Clarence Otis, also a Verizon board member, is chairman of Darden Restaurants, Inc., the largest company-owned and operated full-service restaurant company in

the world. It owns and operates Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Capital Grille, and several other chains.

Coordination

CWA Locals and District mobilization coordinators are coordinating actions at Verizon Wireless stores, Darden Restaurants, and Popular Community Bank branches (formerly Banco Popular) throughout the nation.

If you already have a relationship with the CWA Local or District near you, please coordinate with them directly. If you are looking for an action or want to organize one, please contact Amy Masciola at amy.masciola@gmail.com, 202-285-6955(c), 207-371-9507(o).

As the Day of Action approaches, we will provide details of specific actions on our Action Map. To find out about an action near you, go to StandUpToVerizon.com and click on "Find an Action Near You".

For updates on the campaign for good jobs at Verizon, text STANDUPNOW to **69866** right now.

