

September 17, 2014

Ronald Sargent, CEO Staples, Inc. 500 Staples Dr. Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Mr. Sargent:

As President of the 1.6 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, I'm writing to inform you about the decision our union took as a union at our 2014 Convention to no longer shop at Staples stores until further notice. Your company's willingness to supplant skilled U.S. Postal Service employees with unexperienced nonunion workers will put the security and reliability of the U.S. Mail and thousands of jobs in jeopardy.

As you know, teachers are critical to your profits. Last year, educators spent over \$1.6 billion of their own money on school supplies and a lion's share of that money was spent at Staples stores all across the country. Some of our local affiliates have even entered into partnerships with Staples to offer discounts to teachers and other school related staff with a goal of reducing costs to benefit the communities and families we serve.

Regrettably, many of these partnerships have and will continue to end as long as your company continues to participate in the privatization of postal retail operations through the "Approved Shipper" program, which replaces living-wage Postal Service jobs with low-wage Staples jobs and compromises the safety and security of the mail.

The AFT and our members are deeply concerned about the USPS-Staples deal and the threat it poses to our economy and the security of our mail system.

Postal workers have been a lifeline to our country for generations. The AFT stands with U.S. Postal Workers demanding an end to this deal and insisting on the highest standard of customer service, security and reliability. We ask that you immediately end this deal or our members will continue to buy supplies from other retailers.

Sincerely,

Randi Weingarten

President

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

AFT Teachers
AFT PSRP
AFT Higher Education
AFT Public Employees
AFT Nurses and Health
Professionals

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