



International Union of Operating Engineers

*** * * Local 139 * * ***

Providing A Skilled Workforce For Wisconsin's Future

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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S.J. LOUIS AGREES TO SETTLE FEDERAL LABOR CHARGES

Local 139 successful in getting fired worker reinstated

(PEWAUKEE, Wis) – Local 139 of the International Union of Operating Engineers is pleased to announce that S.J. Louis out of Rockville, Minnesota has agreed to reinstate Ronald Yakes of Cudahy, Wisconsin to his former position as part of a settlement of allegations that it violated Federal labor law. As part of the settlement, S.J. Louis will pay Yakes nearly \$50,000 in back pay, benefits and interest. For the last several weeks, Local 139 has protested S.J. Louis with an unfair labor practice (ULP) strike utilizing inflatable rats, fat cat and hog at various S.J. Louis job sites in Waukesha County while the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) investigated the ULP Charge. “Once we learned that S.J. Louis accused Yakes of being a ‘mole’ for the Union and fired him, we needed to take action.” Said Local 139’s President/Business Manager Terry McGowan. “The Union really had my back” said Yakes, who is not a member of Local 139. “I want to thank Local 139 and the NLRB for helping me get back to work.” As part of the Settlement, the Company is required to comply with the National Labor Relations Act and respect all employees' federally-protected rights.

For more information, please contact legal counsel Brian C. Hlavin at bhlavin@baumsigman.com.

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Established in 1902, Operating Engineers Local 139 is a statewide trade union that primarily represents skilled Operators of heavy construction equipment and mechanics who service the machines. The union has over 10,000 members throughout the state and is headquartered in Pewaukee. Local 139 also maintains district offices in Madison, Appleton and Altoona, as well as a state-certified training school for Operating Engineers in Coloma.