March 14, 2017

Messrs. Randall Stephenson and Mark Royse AT&T Inc. 208 S. Akard St. Dallas, TX 75202

## **Subject: AT&T's Greed Hurts Customers and Workers**

Dear Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Royse,

The women and men who are members of the Communications Workers of America in District 9 have fought for years to maintain quality, middle-class jobs in every part of California and Nevada and to serve customers diligently. Seventeen thousand AT&T technicians and call center staff work hard to provide landline phone service and high speed broadband access throughout California and Nevada.

Yet as AT&T made more than \$14 billion in profits last year, paid out \$46 million to its top executives and spent billions on costly mergers, the company is attempting to move good quality jobs out of California and Nevada. Workers are standing up for their communities.

Over the past five years, AT&T has cut more than 2,500 jobs in California alone, affecting communities from San Diego to Sacramento. In Bakersfield and Anaheim, where call centers have been shut down and jobs sent overseas, these corporate changes hurt local economies and have drained communities of good-paying jobs that are increasingly hard to find.

Additionally, all too many Californians and Nevadans have waited far too long for AT&T to build the high-speed broadband infrastructure promised to them. Not only is AT&T failing to provide access to 21st century high-speed connections to many communities, but it is also not maintaining the copper lines that are vital to landline phone access, 911 and emergency services and basic internet service. In December, CWA members, community leaders and customers supported new CPUC regulations requiring phone companies to provide more real-time and comprehensive reporting on service issues in remote and rural areas in California. As the largest telecom provider in California, and a major telecom provider in Nevada, AT&T has a responsibility to ensure customers in rural areas have access to essential services at all times, not just when it's convenient for the company.

Despite AT&T's neglect and corporate games, AT&T workers in California and Nevada have the expertise, talent, skill and commitment to do their very best for customers. They are frustrated when corporate policies put profits ahead of the wellbeing and safety of our states' communities.

The members of CWA are standing together to hold AT&T accountable to its millions of customers in our states. For nearly a year, AT&T workers in California and Nevada have been fighting for a fair contract for their families and communities and sounding the alarm on service issues. They are taking a stand, and we, the undersigned, pledge our support for their fight.

## Sincerely,

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Executive Committee, LA Workforce Development Board Los Angeles, CA

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