

# 10NEWS vs NABET-CWA

<p>In response to the San Diego-Imperial County Labor Councils request to boycott our Station, 10News would like to issue the following statements:</p>	<p>NABET-CWA Local 54 wants to set the record straight with the following statements:</p>
<p>Employees at KGTV are not on strike; they are currently working and getting paid.</p>	<p>Union employees have been working without a contract since 2006, with no raises and decreased job security. This is the first labor dispute at KGTV since 1953.</p>
<p>The union only represents a small percentage of KGTV employees, less than 20%. The claim that the workers at Channel 10 request the boycott is simply not true.</p>	<p>In 2006, 80% of eligible news workers told KGTV they wanted to join the Union. The station hired a law firm that specializes in "union-free" environments. After a 2-month war of fear and intimidation, the employees lost by just a couple of votes. The manager who promised employees he would protect them was fired and KGTV has since replaced more than half of those employees.</p>
<p>Even the small group of union employees represented by the Union has never voted to authorize a protest or boycott of KGTV. We believe that many in that small group do not support a boycott.</p>	<p>The employees voted on March 25, 2006 to reject KGTV's latest offer and authorize a mobilization campaign including the lawful activities available to them. Union members have re-elected the same leadership team twice since then.</p>
<p>Contract talks reached impasse over the Union's position that "no contract agreement will be reached without the arbitration of the local union president's termination." (The local union president was terminated for sabotaging equipment, and the NLRB has upheld his termination several times.)</p>	<p>The NLRB found that there was no single issue causing impasse, but rather a group of issues.</p> <p>The NLRB never ruled that the termination was for "just cause" because they don't have that authority.</p>
<p>Some of the union members at KGTV have requested a decertification vote, which the union has blocked.</p>	<p>The NLRB has blocked any vote because KGTV has an unsettled Unfair Labor Practice charge pending against them.</p>
<p>KGTV has negotiated in good faith throughout the process, as confirmed by the NLRB on numerous occasions.</p>	<p>KGTV has refused to meet with any party interested in discussing settlement. That includes union leaders, labor leaders, elected officials, even clergy.</p>
<p>KGTV is the only union-represented station in the San Diego market.</p>	<p>KGTV was a top-rated local station and the most profitable in the McGraw-Hill TV group before this labor dispute. Neither is true today.</p>
<p>KGTV treats all its employees, union and non-union alike, fairly and with respect.</p>	<p>KGTV has disciplined more union members in the last 3 years than in the previous 25 years. A former news anchor has filed a lawsuit, claiming management referred to women as "bitches" and discriminated against people of color. Managers profiled union members based on age, race, gender and a "fear" (such as loss of family health benefits) that could be used to intimidate each individual.</p> <p>More details at <a href="http://nabetcwa54.org">nabetcwa54.org</a>.</p>
<p>For questions please contact:</p> <p>Jeff Block          VP, General Manager KGTV  <a href="mailto:Jeff.Block@10news.com">Jeff.Block@10news.com</a></p>	<p>For questions please contact NABET-CWA Local 54:</p> <p>Dennis Csillag, President  <a href="mailto:dennis@nabetcwa54.org">dennis@nabetcwa54.org</a></p> <p>Michelle Krug, Political Director  <a href="mailto:michelle@nabetcwa54.org">michelle@nabetcwa54.org</a></p>