



Negotiations Update UFCW Local 5 Northern California

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Grocery Negotiations Resumed February 20

Negotiations for a new agreement between UFCW Locals 5, 8 and 648 and Safeway, Save Mart and Raley's resumed on Presidents Day, Monday February 20. Monday's meetings dealt with the grievance and arbitration procedure for resolving language and disciplinary disputes. Additional dates will be set to discuss more in depth approaches to resolving delays in processing cases that impact the working conditions and employment of UFCW members. Talks with Safeway and Save Mart will focus on benefits for the rest of the week.

Raley's-Nob Hill Members to Receive Special Update

This week a special communication was mailed to UFCW Local 5 members employed by Raley's and Nob Hill. In the letter Local 5 President Ron Lind outlines the specific difficulties standing in the way of a contract settlement at those companies. First among the road blocks to progress is Raley's intransigent demand that health benefit costs be slashed for existing and retired members immediately, without justifying why they should be. The company has not shown adequate proof as to why any wages or benefits should be reduced much less shredded.

Safeway and Save Mart continue to drive a hard bargain at the table with dozens of devastating proposals made. Having said that they are taking a pragmatic approach to negotiations, and as it stands now, continue to look at options for addressing the hard issues that divide the parties. This sadly is not the case with Raley's, which continues to push for immediate concessions.

The unions will continue to seek consensus with Raley's to arrive at a decent settlement. The company should not confuse this willingness to work through issues as anything less than a complete commitment to achieving a fair settlement. Local 5 will do what it takes to get a good deal for the members at Raley's and Nob Hill as will Local 8.

Continue to stay connected through online media networks such as the UFCW Local 5 website, Facebook and Twitter pages. We are stronger together.