

Senator Kenny Yuko Minority Leader 25th District

Ohio Senate Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: (614) 466-4583

June 16, 2021

Honorable Thomas F. O'Malley Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division 9300 Quincy Avenue Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Judge O'Malley,

I write to you to encourage the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, to return in good faith to contract negotiations with the Laborers Local 860 and to respect the evergreen clause of the previous bargaining agreement.

The ongoing reports of difficulties between the union's representatives and the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court are troubling. Unions have built the American middle class and have made tremendous improvements to the quality of life of the American people.

Across the country, unions represent workers from diverse backgrounds. Unions allow workers to speak with one voice when asking for a fair shot at making the most of their abilities for themselves, their families, and their communities. That's why I have always been a strong voice for organized labor.

Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland have a long, rich tradition of empowering citizens through collective bargaining. I believe it would be ill-advised to turn our backs on that tradition by fighting workers over their right to earn a decent living and retire with dignity.

I support the working men and women of the Laborers Local 860 and their challenging work within the court and detention center. I therefore respectfully ask the court to reconsider its current position and in earnest return to the bargaining table.

Sincerely,

KENNY YUKO Minority Leader

State Senator

25th Senate District

CC: Anthony D. Liberatore Jr., Laborers Local 860 Colin Sikon, Laborers Local 860