



To: Administrative Judge Thomas F. O'Malley

Judge Patrick F. Corrigan

Judge Alison L. Floyd

Judge Michael J. Ryan

Judge Kristin W. Sweeney

Judge Jennifer L. O'Malley

From: Representatives Thomas F. Patton and Terrence Upchurch

Re: Withdrawal of Laborers Local 860 Recognition

Date: July 9, 2021

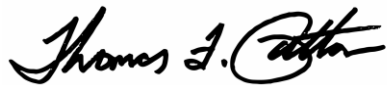
While elected to different sides of the aisle, we are united in our belief that the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court must honor its agreements and, in good faith, negotiate changes to them. It is unconscionable for a court, meant to teach children the value of our society's norms and playing by the rules, to unilaterally abandon the negotiated Laborers Local 860 contract because its leaders decide a union no longer serves their interests.

You set a poor example by rejecting recognition of Laborers Local 860. How can the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court expect children to live up to agreements with its judges and magistrates while refusing to honor its own agreed-upon obligations? Even more troubling is

this attacks the committed professionals who perform the challenging daily work of supporting children in trouble. Court staff see negotiations as an opportunity to collaborate with management to better serve those in the system and, instead, you choose to quash this important process. Withdrawing recognition undermines services for our children and the very moral authority of the Court as well.

Furthermore, we are both concerned that this wanton disregard of an established labor agreement and the subsequent disruption of work is an indicator of other potential issues regarding court administration that must be examined. Our respective offices will be reviewing the court's conduct in this union matter and on other issues we deem appropriate.

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Patton

7th House District



Terrence Upchurch

10th House District