



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ben Field, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Sal Ventura, PRESIDENT  
IBEW Local 332

Gemma Abels, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT  
AFT Local 2022

Bill Guthrie, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT  
UA Local 393

Jason Hall, RECORDING SECT.  
CWA Local 9423

Mark Van Den Heuvel, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS  
Sheet Metal Workers Local 104

Enrique Fernandez, TREASURER  
UNITE HERE! Local 19

Enrique Arguello  
Laborers Local 270

Robert Baldini  
UBC Carpenters Local 405

Doug Bloch  
Teamsters Local 350

Sheillena Brunston  
ATU Local 265

Paul Fong  
AFT Local 6157

Josué García  
Building and Construction  
Trades Council

Charlie Hernandez  
Ironworkers Local 377

Sean Kaldor  
IAFF Local 230

Machelle Kessinger  
CSEA Chapter 281

Malinda Markowitz  
CNA/NNOC

Riko Mendez  
SEIU Local 521

Mark Murray  
AFSCME Local 1587

Denise Solis  
SEIU USWW

Dustin Tyssen  
UFCW Local 5

Stanley Young  
IFPTE Local 21

Robyn Zamora  
AFSCME Local 101

April 7, 2020

Mayor Sam Liccardo  
San Jose City Hall  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council,

I am writing in support of Councilmember Raul Perez's memorandum designating food distribution workers in San Jose as emergency workers. Grocery store employees provide an essential service to City residents, and they are a critical part of the public health response to COVID-19. By performing these critical functions for all of us, they put themselves and their families at greater risk of contracting the virus.

As you know, employees who are designated as emergency workers qualify for certain services, such as childcare. Since a majority of our food distribution employees are supporting families, these workers need the services that come with an emergency worker designation. Their role in dealing with the COVID-19 crisis certainly justifies treating them as emergency workers, and I respectfully request that you designate them as such.

Please let me know whether more information, particularly information from the front lines of food distribution services would be helpful. Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request.

In Solidarity,



Ben Field,  
Executive Officer