

AMERICA WORKS BEST
WHEN WE SAY . . .



PENNSYLVANIA AFL-CIO

RICHARD W. BLOOMINGDALE
President

FRANK SNYDER
Secretary-Treasurer

July 21, 2014

CEO Ronald L. Sargent
Staples, Inc.
500 Staples Drive
Framingham, MA 01702

Dear Mr. Sargent:

We are writing to inform you that The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO and our 800,000 union members in Pennsylvania, has endorsed a boycott of Staples. We are asking our members, friends, family members and colleagues to take their business elsewhere.

We are taking this action because of our concerns about Staples' no-bid deal with the U.S. Postal Service, which established postal counters in more than 80 Staples stores – staffed with Staples employees rather than with employees of the Postal Service.

We believe the American people have a right to Post Offices staffed by highly-trained, uniformed postal employees – employees who have taken an oath to safeguard the privacy and security of their mail.

We also object, in principle, to short-sighted business arrangements that replace good, living-wage jobs with high-turnover, low-wage jobs, as the USPS-Staples deal does.

We note that since the deal with Staples was announced, the USPS has reduced the hours of service in more than two dozen San Francisco-area Post Offices, all of which are near a Staples store with a postal counter. It is apparent that more cuts in postal services are planned, along with the eventual closing of U.S. Post Offices.

As you know, Staples itself is experiencing a decline in sales and has plans to close at least 225 stores by the end of 2015. We are concerned that in pursuing its arrangement with Staples, the USPS will leave many customers without access to any nearby Post Office.

Only the U.S. Postal Service can accomplish the mission it has carried out with distinction for more than two centuries: Providing universal mail service to all Americans, in every corner of the country.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bloomingdale
President

Frank Snyder
Secretary-Treasurer

RWB/ca

