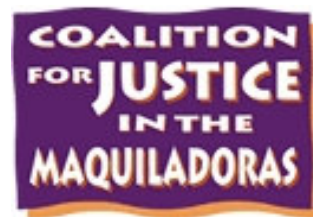




Campaign for Labor Rights
1247 E St. SE
Washington DC, 20003

4207 Willow Brook
San Antonio, TX 78228
210-732-8957



Dear Store Manager:

We are here today to let you and your customers know about a situation that concerns us involving workers who make jeans for Levi Strauss & Company in Gomez Palacio, Durango Mexico. They work for a supplier of Levi named *Manufacturas Lajat*.

Since January, 2005 the Lajat workers have been trying to correct a number of problems in their workplace like forced unpaid overtime, failure of the company to pay into government-required health care and housing funds, lack of drinking water and clean restrooms, and unsafe working conditions causing exposure to toxic chemicals. The Lajat workers are predominantly women; many are single mothers.

In response to their protests, Lajat fired the organizing committee, but was forced to reinstate them in May partially as a result of Levi's intervention. Since then, however, they have been repeatedly denied their rights in law and under Levi's Terms of Engagement (TOE) for its suppliers. There is no question that they have been denied their rights to freedom of association to elect a union of their own choosing. Even Levi's agrees that this is true.

In addition Lajat management has blacklisted the workers at other factories in the region, starved them out by sending work from their factory to subcontractors, and in October brought in police, who attacked, beat and tear gassed the workers.

Now Lajat has locked them out. They refuse, however, to give up and are standing their ground.

We, with the Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras, are standing with them. CJM has attempted to get Levi's, which is Lajat's biggest customer, to apply enough pressure to force Lajat to live up to its agreement with Levi's. Levi's takes the position that since it no longer produces at the Gomez plant, it cannot tell Lajat to reopen it, even though it acknowledges that Lajat may have closed the plant to avoid a union election. By not ensuring justice for Lajat workers, Levi's effectively condones Lajat's numerous violations of workers' rights. By refusing to ensure Lajat workers their jobs and their right to organize, Levi's legitimizes Lajat's criminal behavior. Lajat wants the workers to give up their struggle for jobs and an independent union; without justice, the workers say "No."

That's why we're here. We think Levi's customers need to know that it has jeans made in sweatshops in its stores and has not yet corrected the situation.

Please let Levi Strauss & Co. know we were here and add your voice to those of an increasing number of citizens who want clothing that is truly sweat-free. You can let Levi's know by contacting Michael Koberi, Vice President, Global Code of Conduct, Levi Strauss & Co., 1155 Battery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111

Also, you should know that another Lajat customer was Mudd Jeans. Mudd is even less ethical with regard to the workers. Mudd cut their contract and ran.

Sincerely,