



Michigan AFSCME Council 25 News Release

www.miafscme.org

Albert Garrett, President Lawrence A. Roehrig, Secretary-Treasurer
1034 North Washington, Lansing MI 48906
(517) 487-5081 1-800-237-2632 FAX (517) 487-3970

*For release at 1:30 PM
October 27, 2009
Michigan Circuit*

Contact:
Herbert A. Sanders, Esq.
Michigan AFSCME Council 25, AFL-CIO
(313) 962-0099

AFSCME Sues Mayor Bing for Terminating Union Contract

Detroit MI October 27, 2009 -- Herbert A. Sanders, attorney for Michigan Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO, issued the following statement:

“Today, Michigan AFSCME Council 25 filed a complaint for temporary injunction, order to show cause, preliminary injunction, and order of expedited arbitration against Mayor David Bing and Barbara Wise Johnson, Director of Labor Relations for the City of Detroit,” stated Sanders.

“Mr. Bing has acted unilaterally and unlawfully to terminate provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between AFSCME and the city,” Sanders continued. “The city charter vests final approval of all contracts with the City Council, and explicitly states that contracts may not become effective until approved by the Council.

“Mr. Bing and Ms. Johnson have acted without approval of the City Council to alter the collective bargaining agreement which was properly approved by the Council,” Sanders explained. “AFSCME has filed a grievance regarding this unlawful action, and we are now seeking an Order compelling an expedited arbitration hearing on that grievance, as well as a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue prohibiting any City official from terminating the collective bargaining agreement until the arbitrator has heard the grievance and rendered a decision and award on the merits.

Albert Garrett is also Michigan Vice President for AFSCME International. Michigan AFSCME Council 25 represents more than 90,000 public workers across Michigan. AFSCME International represents 1.4 million public workers nationwide. News releases issued by Michigan AFSCME Council 25 are available at <http://www.miafscme.org/Releases.htm>

- 30 -