

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

October 25, 2011



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Working Families Call Foul on CME's "Fairness"

Stand Up! Chicago and Workers United to Show Solidarity with Occupy Chicago, Then Rally to Counter the Merc's Most Recent Attempt to Leverage Corporate Welfare

Chicago, IL—Tomorrow, Stand Up! Chicago coalition members and members of the Chicago and Midwest Regional Joint Board of Workers United will march and rally to show solidarity with Occupy Chicago, and then gather at the Chicago Board of Trade to shine a spotlight on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange's recent efforts to leverage tax breaks from the state.

Occupy Chicago voted to support and march in the Columbus Day Take Back Chicago mass mobilization organized by Stand Up! Chicago, adding their numbers to the 7,000-person crowd calling for job creation and an end to corporate welfare. Stand Up! Chicago has since joined in multiple Occupy Chicago actions.

Members of the Chicago and Midwest Regional Board of Workers United, a labor organization holding a convention in Chicago this week, will not only stand in solidarity with Occupy Chicago, they will also provide some winter wear and sleeping bags to help them brave the winter.

After rallying, there will be a march to the Chicago Board of Trade to protest the CME's efforts to obtain additional tax breaks from the state.

CME has a history of padding its profits—recently collecting \$32 million in corporate welfare payouts from the city after threatening to relocate and thrust an additional 2,200 Chicagoans into unemployment.

Tomorrow's action highlights the CME's efforts to use the same tactics to leverage tax breaks worth \$75 million a year from the state legislature, efforts the CME claims are motivated by a desire for "fairness."

WHO: Working Chicago families including **Stand Up! Chicago** coalition members and **members of the Chicago and Midwest Regional Joint Board of Workers United** joining in solidarity with **Occupy Chicago**

WHAT: March and Rally at Occupy Chicago, with the presentation of union-made winter wear and sleeping bags to Occupiers, followed by a Rally at Chicago Board of Trade to Demand that CME Pay Its FAIR Share of State Taxes

The Rally at Occupy Chicago will feature Noel Beasley, President of Workers United (an affiliate of SEIU); Richard Monje, Vice-President of Workers United; Juan Campos of Teamsters Local 705; and Susan Hurley of Chicago Jobs with Justice. Speakers at the Rally at the Board of Trade will include community leader Rev. Dan Dale, and Penny Peoples, an unemployed Chicagoan impacted by corporate welfare payouts.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 26, 11:45 a.m.

WHERE: Beginning at **Chase Tower Plaza** at 10 S. Dearborn, then Marching to **Occupy Chicago** at Jackson and LaSalle, and then crossing the street to the **Chicago Board of Trade**

WHY:

To show solidarity with Occupy Chicago in the fight against corporate welfare and to provide hats and sleeping bags to help them brave dropping temperatures.

And to call FOUL on CME's Attempt to Obtain Additional Tax Breaks from the State in the name of "FAIRNESS." CME has already received \$32 million in corporate welfare payouts from the city by leveraging threats to relocate. Now they're at it again at the state level, this time framing their demand for tax breaks as a request for "fairness" since other corporations have managed to avoid paying their fair share of state taxes by taking advantage of loopholes. **Working families are coming together to demand that the CME and the state legislature do what's FAIR to working families, and fix tax loopholes so that all corporations pay their fair share.**

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