

Transportation Communications International Union

An affiliate of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers





Robert A. Scardelletti, International President

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

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September 17, 2010

Mr. William V. Bidwill Arizona Cardinals 8701 South Hardy Drive Tempe, AZ 85284

Dear Mr. Bidwill:

Recent press has reported that the National Football League owners are taking a hard-line strategy in collective bargaining negotiations with the players which could lead to a lock out and force cancellation of games. This hard-line stand could jeopardize football in the 2011-2012 season. This is a time when we are all working to rebuild our weak economy and create more jobs in this country; we fear that an interruption in one of the few thriving American industries, professional football, would be profoundly detrimental on many levels.

The prospect of significant job losses on and off the field is daunting and while negotiations with the National Football League Players' Association (NFLPA) are continuing, your threatened lockout, proposed increase in regular season games at the risk of further physical harm to the players and your financial demands are disappointing to say the least. We strongly urge you to also think about the stadium workers, hotel and restaurant workers, and thousands of other working people who support your team, not to mention the devastating consequences a lockout will have for many small businesses struggling to keep their doors open.

Literally tens of thousands of our members and their families are diehard football fans that not only watch the games on Sunday but they play fantasy football, follow the draft and buy NFL apparel. Our Union stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the NFLPA in this dispute and ready to reach out to our friends in Congress and insist on public hearings to open up the financial books. We remain hopeful that it will not come to that and the parties will be able to reach a voluntary agreement within the next several months through the give-and-take of collective bargaining.

I respectfully ask that you consider these views and the concerns of the many working families who may be affected and for all the passionate footballs fans. I look forward to your response and good news for all involved in this *All American* business—football.

Very truly yours

Robert A. Scardelletti International President

8

NFL Page 2 September 17, 2010

cc: Richard L. Trumka, President, AFL-CIO
R. Thomas Buffenbarger, International President, IAM
Matthew R. McKinnon, Director, Legislative and Political Action, IAM
DeMaurice Smith, President, NFLPA