International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



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Area Code 301 967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

June 11, 2020

Mr. Dirk Lesko President General Dynamics Bath Iron Works 700 Washington Street Bath, Maine 04530

Dear Mr. Lesko:

I am writing to you on behalf of our membership at Bath Iron Works (BIW) and more than 600,000 Machinists Union members across North America. We can all agree that our country is reeling from the effects of COVID-19, which has impacted our families and communities. Now is the time to reward dedicated workers who have risked their health, and in some cases their lives, to maintain production. Sadly, it appears that BIW has chosen to take another path, as evidenced by the current negotiations.

Since the beginning of our negotiations with BIW, our bargaining committee has made it clear that addressing the subcontracting of our work and maintaining our members' seniority are critical to reaching a new collective bargaining agreement. The misguided proposals from BIW to continue the outsourcing of our work and to strip seniority rights from our members strike at the very core of what we stand for as a union.

Our membership has made many sacrifices over the years to ensure the success of BIW. For months, these men and women have worked through a pandemic to continue to support the mission of your company and the U.S. Navy. Especially at a time like this, BIW must do everything possible to keep its skilled workforce here in Maine—now and into the future.

For generations, our members have worked hand in hand to produce ships that keep our service men and women safe. The U.S. military counts on our partnership and the best shipbuilders in the world to produce a top-notch product. Your current actions jeopardize the government's trust in you to fulfill our obligation to produce the finest warships in the world.

In addition, we are also mindful that the taxpayers of Maine provide your company with approximately \$3 million per year and \$45 million in total to support these jobs.

We ask you to do the right thing and work with us to come to an agreement that respects the IAM, the people of Maine and our service men and women. Know that we will do everything in our power to protect the good and welfare of our members at Local Lodge S6.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez Jr.
International President