International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



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OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

July 14, 2020

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo Office of the Governor New York State Capitol Building Executive Chambers Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), to request your assistance in saving nearly 80 jobs at Jamestown Metal Products in Jamestown, NY. Employees were told the "best direction of the company is to close the facility," after reportedly suffering cash flow problems. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the company to have supply chain issues that made it difficult to ship finished orders. Jamestown Metal Product's parent company, Institutional Casework Inc., informed us the plant would stop production on September 4, 2020 and move all of the work to Tennessee.

The plant closure announcement came as a big surprise to our members and devastated the Jamestown community. The people of Jamestown have been proud to manufacture commercial stainless steel cabinets, casework, fume hoods and other metal products at this plant since it first opened in 1943. Institutional Casework, Inc. acquired Jamestown Metal Products in 2009.

Clearly, Institutional Casework, Inc. seems to have no regard for the talent or skill of American workers. Jamestown, NY was once known as the "furniture capital of the world" because of its fine furniture and brass hardware manufacturers. Today, small companies like Jamestown Metal Products are consumed by larger corporations and moved, with no consideration to families living there.

We are asking your help in reaching out to Jamestown Metal Products and have them reconsider its decision to close its facility in Jamestown. The company is open to working with the local community to find a solution that would keep the work in New York, if it made financial sense. Now we need your help. The workers at Jamestown Metal Products deserve better than being thrown out on the street. Our nation deserves better.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr. International President, IAMAW