

Know the enemy: Boycott TAMKO Building Products

By **DAVID COOK**
President



COOK

In a state where individuals and groups can pour unlimited cash into political campaigns, and in a country where the source of that cash can be kept a secret, sometimes it's difficult to know just who is pulling the strings behind some of the biggest political fights facing the voters.

It's critical to understand how the wealthiest donors and most powerful special interests use their huge sums of cash to influence elections in our state and our country.

In Missouri, many voters have slowly begun to learn the name of just one of these mega-donors. Rex Sinquefield has poured more than \$40 million into Missouri politics since 2008, donating both directly to candidates and funding organizations devoted to his pet issues. And while many in Missouri have slowly come to recognize Rex's name, there is another millionaire in this state who, sadly, is operating much more in the dark.

This donor is targeting you and your Union family. This wealthy business owner has already poured millions into the 2016 political campaign cycle to try to support disastrous Right-to-Work laws that the people of Missouri don't want or need. Too few Union partners know about this man and his personal mission to gut Labor across the state by stacking the deck with his millions.

His name is David Humphreys, and he's a Joplin-based millionaire and owner of TAMKO Building Products. Humphreys hasn't reached the same kind of notoriety as Sinquefield, but he is rapidly becoming the most dangerous man in Missouri to hard-working families like yours. Humphreys would like to

deal Missouri Unions a massive blow, lowering wages and weakening workplace safety laws, all to give men like him a few percentage points more in profits.

Make no mistake: if you see ads this cycle targeting Attorney General Chris Koster over the donations he's received from labor unions, Humphreys is to blame. When you hear ads on the radio telling hard-working families to decertify their Union contracts, it's Humphreys' money keeping those ads on the air. When incumbent lawmakers who voted with Unions are challenged by well-funded efforts to take their seat, it's thanks to huge checks of \$25K, \$50K, and much more, from Humphreys.

We must respond when these cynical, greedy men attempt to buy our political process instead of leaving decisions up to the voters of our state. First, we must push them out from the shadows and reveal them to the world. Tell your friends, co-workers, and your family about Humphreys and his selfish agenda to pad the pockets of millionaires on the backs of hard-working families.

But more importantly, we must fight to hit Humphreys in the only place that matters to him: His wallet. TAMKO Building Products fund his radical agenda, and it's time we bankrupted that agenda.

MakesureyouneveruseTAMKOProducts; make sure you encourage those around you to do the same. TAMKO products are often used in both residential and industrial construction, so you can absolutely take part in this fight. Whether it's roofing, decking and railing, waterproofing or cement work, make sure you never spend a dime on TAMKO.

If Humphreys wishes to take money out of your pockets by supporting Right-to-Work and the wage-lowering catastrophe it will bring, then we have to be willing to take money out of his pockets.

**AN EXCLUSIVE
TWICE MONTHLY
REPORT FOR**

UFCW 655
MEMBERS &
THEIR FAMILIES

a VOICE for working America

www.ufcw655.com



UFCW LOCAL 655 walked in the St. Louis Pride Parade earlier this month to show solidarity with the LGBTQ community.

Member Quinndale Jernigan 'made whole' after wrongful termination

In the spring of 2015, Quinndale Jernigan was blessed with a gift that so many hard-working men and women hope to receive one day.

His sixth child, a daughter, was born healthy and happy. As he held his newborn baby in his arms, sitting in a hospital room just a few feet from his fiancé, the joy came with just the smallest tinge of worry.

The day before, Quinndale Jernigan was wrongfully terminated by his employer, for reasons that could be chalked up to a simple, innocent, miscommunication. Jernigan contacted his Union Representative and explained the problem.

At the time, he was working two part-time jobs and putting himself through school. Every week he kept his schedule straight by penning his every shift or family obligation into a small weekly planner. One week, Jernigan made a simple mistake and recorded a few of his shifts incorrectly.

When his paycheck the following week appeared to be short, he spoke to a manager. His manager referred him to another manager. That manager referred him to a third manager, before he was told to write down his apparent unpaid shifts so they could "look in to it."

Not long after, Quinndale was fired for "stealing time" when it was revealed that he'd recorded his shifts wrong in his schedule and thus, claimed he'd worked a shift that he hadn't. He had been named the "Amazing Teammate" twice in his time at his store, and even named "Star of the Quarter" in the past.

Even though he insisted it was an innocent mistake made by a man who was raising 5 children, working two jobs and going to school, he was terminated.



JERNIGAN

"I was devastated for a while, it was like everything I had worked for was taken away," Jernigan said. "I had just had my sixth child, and I felt like I was unable to support my family."

But he didn't back down. If any of the three managers that he'd spoken to had simply checked his shifts, they would have told him he was mistaken, and it never would have come to termination. Jernigan insisted on fighting what he felt was a wrongful termination. He filed a grievance, and the long arbitration process began.

"I've seen other workers who didn't fight when something happened to them that wasn't right," Jernigan said. "I wanted to be a leader. I was innocent, I hadn't tried to do anything wrong, but my family motivated me to not give up. If you give up, you'll never get anything."

Over 14 months later, and Jernigan was not only back at work, but he was headed to his company's corporate office to collect a check for \$13,000. He had been made whole by the company that fired him and given 14 months worth of pay, reinstated, and, most importantly, vindicated of any wrongdoing.

"I didn't know much about unions before all this," Jernigan said. "I've had jobs in the past where I had a union but they weren't nearly as strong as this one. I think employees need to know that they have a strong union backing them up. There's a lot of fear out there, but you need to know your rights and not be afraid to fight."

He now has money to pay his bills, help care for his 6 children and his fiancé and, most importantly, help him continue his schooling and work toward the better life he has earned. And it's all thanks to his willingness to fight injustice on the job, and UFCW Local 655's resources to help him do it.

"This is going to be just so helpful for my family," Jernigan said. "I appreciate the Union's help so, so much."

UFCW 655 kicks off 'Wellness'
Make sure you keep your eyes peeled for this logo

UFCW Local 655 continues our campaign to help you stay healthy and happy.
Watch for flyers in your workplace on a regular basis on a wide variety of health topics!

Education Grants awarded at June meeting

UFCW Local 655 awarded 20 education grants at its regular June meeting as part of our regular efforts to help hard-working partners attend school.

Grants of up to \$150 each are available to any and all UFCW partners currently seeking any form of higher education.

We draw 20 winners twice per year at regular monthly meetings, and signing up is easy. You can visit our website to fill out the form or ask your shop steward or Union Representative to give you a copy.

The grants are our way of giving you a little extra cash when you most need it. So whether you need books, schoolsupplies, or just a little help with the bills as you seek to further your education, we can help! Sign up for our grants today!



June Educational Grant Winners

- Andrew Meyer**- Schnucks Harvester
- Brittney Jaggie**- Dierberg's Deer Creek
- Andrew Barrow**- Schnucks Cottleville
- Gage Freeman**- Schnucks Cottleville
- Antonia LaRocca**-Dierberg's Bogey Hills
- Marisa Klasek**-Schnucks Twin Oaks
- Peter Ettl**ing-Schnucks Affton
- Jessica Bates**-Schnucks Farmington
- Kene Bratcher**-Dierbergs Brentwood
- Brooke Haney**- Schnucks Wentzville
- Erika Day**- Shop 'n Save Lemay
- Kelsey Barkley**-Dierbergs Deer Creek
- Nancy Adams**-Dierbergs Brentwood Pointe
- Paula Curran**- Dierbergs Lemay
- Jerimiah Tile**- Shop 'n Save Festus
- Shawn Polaski**- Schnucks Twin Oaks

And the survey says...
It's election season!

By now you've probably already seen flyers in your workplace asking you to take our workplace issue surveys every month from now until Election Day.

Our July survey is active and we want to hear from YOU on the issues that impact you on the job.

Visit our website to take the new survey, and keep an eye out for our Election 2016 logo on our next flyer, which will have the results from the June survey!

Go online and take our survey today!