



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

# MEMBERS' VOICE

The Weekly Strike Bulletin of UAWD

SIGN UP AT [UAWD.ORG/MEMBERS-VOICE](https://UAWD.ORG/MEMBERS-VOICE)

## WHOSE TURN TO STAND UP?

Three plants – GM in Wentzville, MO; Ford in Wayne, MI; and Stellantis in Toledo, OH – have been on strike since midnight September 14. On Friday, September 22, at 10am ET, UAW President Shawn Fain will give an update on Facebook Live. President Fain has let UAW members know that more plants will walk out at noon that day if there is not sufficient progress in negotiations. **BE READY TO STAND UP!**

The companies have begun laying off workers who are not on strike. If this affects you, you may or may not be eligible for unemployment compensation depending on the laws in your state. If you are not eligible for unemployment benefits, you will be considered “locked out” and will be paid strike pay and have your health insurance covered by the UAW. President Fain stated September 16, “The UAW will make sure any worker laid off in the Big Three’s latest attack will not go without an income.”

## GET YOUR WHOLE TEAM WEARING RED

Looking for a way to Stand Up on the job? You can build Red Shirt Wednesday in team:

1. Set a time and place to meet for a picture on Wednesday (outside break areas are great, and break times tend to work well).
2. Talk to your team a few days in advance about wearing red on Wednesday. Tell them the time and place to meet for the picture.
3. Follow up with your team before the end of the shift on Tuesday: “We’re all wearing red tomorrow, right?”
4. On Wednesday don’t forget to take a picture of your team wearing red and upload it to your local Facebook group. It’ll help Red Shirt Wednesday grow!

## REFUSE VOLUNTARY OVERTIME

Across the Big Three, members not yet on strike are answering the UAW’s call to refuse voluntary overtime. In a few plants, including Ford Buffalo Stamping and GM Arlington Assembly, members forced their plants to shut down entire shifts.

Local 276 member Tiffany Martin reports that throughout the week “everyone in our area stood firm on no breaks, no lunch overtime. The group leader came around just before lunch and asked everyone again to work lunch and even had a sign-up sheet for extended hours for tonight’s shift. Everyone signed the paper with a big fat no.”

In Local 160, Jessica Kelly got her entire shop to refuse Saturday and Sunday. When the company threatened to outsource their jobs to a non-union shop, she reminded others, “This is a fear tactic. It’s the same as going down to a Local 12 picket line in Toledo and telling our brothers and sisters they should go back to the plant or else they will send their jobs to Mexico. We are all risking something, but it only works if we all risk it, because they can’t retaliate against all of us.”

Under the law, and confirmed by IUAW Legal Counsel, organizing to refuse voluntary OT is protected activity. If the OT mandatory then we don’t have the same right to refuse, but we can always find other ways to show support and turn up the heat.

**SIGN THE PLEDGE TO REFUSE VOLUNTARY OVERTIME!**

[UAWD.ORG/WORKTORULE](https://UAWD.ORG/WORKTORULE)

Sign on, learn more about how to safely refuse voluntary OT, and request free leaflets to get your coworkers on board



## RETURN OF THE FLYING SQUADRONS



Flying Squadrons are back! UAW members have been carpooling from around the nation to make their way to picket lines. Many locals deployed Flying Squadrons to bring reinforcements and provisions to the picket lines in Wentzville, Toledo, and Wayne.

No Flying Squadron to join at your local? Earlier today, a UAWD Flying Squadron brought members from Locals 182, 600, and 1264 to support Local 900 members on their picket line. "We're reinforcing our brothers and sisters who are out on strike," says Local 1250 member Ryan Ashley. "It shows the members who are on the picket line that the members of other Locals are supporting them 100%." UAWD has more Flying Squadrons planned for this weekend and the weeks to come. If you are near a picket line, sign up at [uawd.org/flying-squadrons](https://uawd.org/flying-squadrons).

**SHARE A STORY FOR  
NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE:  
[UAWD.ORG/MEMBERS-VOICE](https://uawd.org/members-voice)**

## HONK FOR AUTOWORKERS!

As soon as they walked out of the Toledo North Assembly Plant, Local 12 members had the idea of organizing "Jeep convoys," where members of the community who own Jeeps can show their support for the striking workers who produce them. Thanks to the organizing of members and community supporters, the picket lines have welcomed several convoys of up to 200 Jeeps. The solidarity couldn't be contained in Toledo; they had to bring the spirit up to the striking Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne. On Tuesday, September 19, Jeep convoys honked and cheered as they circled both the day and night picket shifts. Tomorrow, Local 900 members and community supporters in Wayne plan to make the trip down to Toledo.



PHOTO: THE TOLEDO BLADE

Local 12 member Auston Gore says, "I love that it's not Ford, GM, and Stellantis. That it's all just one union, one UAW. These companies try their damndest to create that divide. In these convoys, there's no divide, just strictly solidarity!"

## UNITE ALL WORKERS FOR DEMOCRACY

UAWD is a caucus of UAW members building a rank-and-file movement for the long haul. We campaigned for "1 Member, 1 Vote" in the lead-up to the 2020 referendum and ran the "Members United" slate, including UAW President Shawn Fain, during the 2022 IEB elections. UAWD members have fought for and won reforms like day-one strike pay and an increase in strike pay. Our focus in 2023 is supporting Big 3 workers in the fight to win the strongest contracts possible. Learn more at [uawd.org](https://uawd.org).