

Exploitation of Workers in Arizona Continues

Protest to take place in New Community Development

Phoenix, AZ. – Workers who have gone months without pay are demanding that their former employer pay their wages owed. Former employees of Jostes Concrete, LLC will join community members to protest in front of one of T.W. Lewis new home development communities.

<u>What:</u>	Protest
<u>Date:</u>	Monday, November 10, 2008
<u>Time:</u>	10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
<u>Location:</u>	T.W. Lewis, Desert Springs (see directions below, off of I-17 and Happy Valley)

For months Jostes workers have been demanding payment. What has instead been happening is that the employer, Todd Jostes, gives checks for \$100 or \$200 every pay period. When workers realize they are not going to be paid in full, Jostes simply hires new workers with the promise of paying them.

The protest will take place in front of a T.W. Lewis new luxury community, Desert Springs at Sonoran Foothills. “Our dispute is not with T.W. Lewis, but with the company that refuses to pay us while we see our children and families suffer,” said Raul Peralvillo, a former employee of Jostes Concrete and one of the lead organizers, “We are tired of being laughed at and lied to, what we want now is more than money, we want respect and for others not to be tricked into working for free.”

“As illustrated by the elections, Arizona continues to be a site of racism and injustice. While nationally people are calling this the dawn of a new era, what we are seeing is simply more of the same,” said Ray Ybarra, an organizer with PUEBLO, Center for Legal and Human Rights. “Thankfully these Jostes workers and their families are willing to stand and fight, and it will be a pleasure to stand alongside them.”

Directions to Desert Springs:

From I-17, exit at Happy Valley Road. Go east on Happy Valley to Norterra Parkway – turn left on Norterra. Continue north on Norterra for about 2 miles as it winds through a residential neighborhood. Turn left at the stop sign onto North Valley Parkway; continue north for about 2 miles. Turn Right on North Foothills Drive and continue past the Sonoran Foothills clubhouse. The road will curve and turn into Bronco Butte Trail. Continue straight after stopping at the stop sign at Paloma Parkway, then turn left on 18th Avenue. Turn left again at Burnside Trail; the Desert Springs models are on the left.

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For more information about the organization you can visit the website, www.puebloaz.org.