

Workers and Community to Protest Non-Paying Employer

Protest to take place in wealthy neighborhood

Phoenix, AZ. – Workers who have gone for more than six weeks without pay are demanding answers from their former employer. Former employees of Maverick Framing, LLC will join community members to protest in front of their old job site.

<u>What:</u>	Protest
<u>Date:</u>	Wednesday, October 1, 2008
<u>Time:</u>	9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
<u>Location:</u>	4701 E. Launfal (S. of Camelback between 46th and 48th Street)

On Friday, September 26 a PUEBLO staff member joined Ignacio Garcia, Jose Calderon, Santiago Guzman, Javier Martinez, and Jaime Estrada on a delegation to give their former employer, Martin Basta, a demand letter. When Basta was given the letter he stated that these men were never employees of any of the company’s listed on the letter.

On Monday, September 29, Mr. Calderon, Mr. Guzman, and Mr. Garcia were given checks for the money they were owed. **However, Mr. Basta refused payment to Mr. Martinez and Mr. Estrada because of their role in organizing others to stand-up for their rights.**

Mr. Estrada, who is owed for 250 hours of work, stated, “He is trying to use us as an example, telling the others that if you stand-up for your rights and for the rights of your fellow workers, then you will not be paid.”

“The anti-immigrant sentiment has reached such a fervor in Phoenix that stories like these are coming into our office on a daily basis,” said Ray Ybarra, an organizer with PUEBLO, Center for Legal and Human Rights. “Thankfully these individuals are willing to stand and fight, and it will be a pleasure to stand alongside them.”

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