



*Solidarity House*

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INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA – UAW

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RORY L. GAMBLE, *PRESIDENT*

RAY CURRY, *SECRETARY-TREASURER*

VICE-PRESIDENTS: TERRY DITTES • CINDY ESTRADA • GERALD KARIEM

April 27, 2020

TO: All UAW General Motors Local Union Presidents, Shop Chairpersons,  
Vice Presidents, Financial Secretaries and Recording Secretaries

**RE: Health and Safety Meetings Locally**

Dear Union Brothers and Sisters:

As of the time of writing this communication, General Motors has not announced a date to re-start operations. **Those Members working in GM facilities are all voluntarily doing so, and the International Union has not agreed to any re-start date.**

Under the leadership of UAW President Rory Gamble, the Coronavirus Task Force has been discussing and debating Health and Safety Protocols and Guidelines with all three (3) OEM's of the auto industry. These talks have been productive but address a general guideline of protocols and procedures. This Task Force has been ongoing, as well as the three (3) UAW Vice Presidents working in solidarity on behalf of our Members at GM, Ford and FCA.

On Tuesday, April 21, 2020, I sent out a communication encouraging locals to engage with Local Plant Management regarding Safety Protocols at each of your respective locations. **We, in the International Union, UAW believe it is too early to safely return to work.** It is, however, definitely the time to discuss how the process will work once GM decides on a date to start-up operations and our Members return to work.

I am asking you to contact Local Plant Management and set-up meetings to discuss Health and Safety Protocols and Procedures. All subjects should be on the table and Shop Committees, Local Union Executive Boards, Health and Safety Representatives, UAW-GM Department Staff, and Regional Servicing Staff should be included in these discussions. For those Local Unions who have already started this process, I want to thank you for your efforts and your service.

The International Union has been laying groundwork for a safe return to work, but without input from the Local Union Leadership it will not be complete. It is the Local Union Leadership who can discuss and debate with Local Management on how to make it safe for our Members' return once a return date is identified.

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As Union Leaders, we owe it to our Members, their families and all of America to raise the tough questions, get a better understanding of the guidelines and debate the tough issues as it relates to your location.

The UAW-GM Department Staff and the UAW International Executive Board are here to assist in any way we can in order to ensure safety in the workplace.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Dittes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Terry Dittes  
Vice President and Director  
UAW General Motors Department

TD:rb  
opeiu494

cc: IEB  
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