

Justice@Smithfield:

A resolution by people of faith,
conscience and social concern



Whereas, Smithfield Packing Inc. is the largest pork producer and processor in the world, and the Smithfield Packing plant in Tar Heel, NC is the largest pork processing facility in the world, employing more than 5,000 workers and slaughtering more than 32,000 hogs a day; and

Whereas, Human Rights Watch has found that Smithfield Packing has violated internationally recognized human rights standards by using intimidation, threats and violence against workers; and

Whereas, Human Rights Watch reported evidence which shows that Smithfield Packing discourages workers from reporting workplace injuries; and

Whereas, Smithfield Packing Inc has its own private company police force; and

Whereas, evidence show that Smithfield Packing uses the Company Police to intimidate, threaten and harass workers who engage in organized activity to defend their labor rights; and

Whereas, a federal court in North Carolina ruled that Chief of Company Police Danny Priest violated the Ku Klux Klan Act for physically assaulting a pro-union worker and a union organizer after a union election in 1997; and

Whereas, the NLRB found Smithfield Packing guilty of violating workers rights to organize a union and ordered Smithfield to obey the law and allow workers to exercise their legal rights without retaliation or threats; and

Whereas, Smithfield Packing has repeatedly appealed the rulings against the company, thereby delaying and denying justice for Smithfield workers; and

Whereas, Smithfield Packing Inc. and Smithfield sub-contractor QSI Inc, were found guilty of using the Company Police to physically assault workers, cause the false arrest of a worker, and threaten bodily harm in retaliation for legal activities to protest working conditions, in violation of federal labor law;

Therefore be it resolved that _____ supports justice for workers at Smithfield Packing; and

Be it further resolved that we call on Smithfield Packing to:

Disband the Company Police

Obey the law. Stop the use of threats, intimidation and violence against workers.

Implement the NLRB orders to respect workers rights

Be it further resolved that we will communicate this call for justice to:

Joseph Luter, III, CEO, Smithfield Foods, Inc, 200 Commerce St, Smithfield, VA 23430

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Please mail a copy of this resolution to: UFCW, 303 E 4th Ave, Red Springs, NC 28377