MCAW Responds to Walmart Exec Marc Lore’s Lavish Lifestyle

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Washington, D.C.—In response to today’s news that Walmart’s U.S. e-commerce business executive, Marc Lore, purchased a roughly $43.79 million New York penthouse with five bedrooms and its own private outdoor pool, Making Change at Walmart (MCAW) director, Randy Parraz, has issued the following statement:

“While Marc Lore is moving into his penthouse, thousands of Walmart workers and their families are struggling to afford rent, groceries, and basic needs on a poverty wage. Walmart’s practices and policies trap workers in the poorhouse, while its millionaire executives live it up in the penthouse.”

There is something fundamentally wrong with a company’s top executive making million-dollar purchases while thousands of the company’s employees are on government assistance. This kind of gross inequality between the economic reality for Walmart workers and the extravagance of executives cuts deep into the heart of the American dream.

Background on Walmart Worker Poverty:

News of Lore’s purchase comes just days after two Walmart workers spoke at Poor People’s Campaign rallies in Nashville, Tenn. and Columbus, Ohio, citing Walmart’s low wages, inconsistent and unfair scheduling, and inadequate benefits as contributing to systemic poverty in the U.S.

MCAW also released a fact sheet, The Growing Wage Divide Between Walmart’s Top 1% and its Workers, during Walmart’s 2018 annual shareholder meeting noting Walmart’s top five executives, including Lore, compensated themselves $64.5 million in FY 2018 and over the last 3 years, Walmart has spent almost $400 million on executive compensation, while denying basic middle-class benefits to its part-time workers, like employer-provided health care, paid maternity or parental leave, and holiday pay.

With thousands of workers qualifying for government assistance due to Walmart’s low wages and inconsistent scheduling, U.S. taxpayers are left on the hook to cover the approximate $6.2 billion in government subsidies that Walmart workers are forced to rely on.