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**Contact: Amy Ritter, (202) 251-5907**

## **MCAW Statement on Walmart Withdrawing Appeal to NLRB Ruling**

*Withdrawal Closes the Case for Historic Ruling on Retail Workers' Rights*

**Washington, D.C.** — In response to Walmart [withdrawing](#) its appeal against an NLRB ruling that found the retailer to have unlawfully disciplined workers who participated in a sit-down strike in a Richmond, California Walmart in November of 2012, [Making Change at Walmart](#) (MCAW) director, Randy Parraz, issued the following statement to Bloomberg:

**“This historic moment shows us two things: One, that Walmart broke the law when it punished its workers for exercising their federally-protected right to peaceful protest, and two, that Walmart workers have the right to stand up for themselves and earn a better life.**

**It’s been six years of Walmart ignoring these facts and delaying justice for these workers. We are glad to see the outcome land on the side of the workers who bravely stood up against mistreatment by Walmart and demanded something better.”**

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### Background

- The withdrawal stems from an NLRB ruling which found that Walmart workers, who engaged in a “relatively small, brief, peaceful and confined” work stoppage at a Walmart store in Richmond, California in November 2012, were unlawfully disciplined for their conduct.
- Workers participating in this sit-down strike were protesting their supervisor’s statements and actions towards them and Walmart’s “apparent condonation” of the behavior.
- As described by the NLRB: “Of particular importance to those employees was the Respondent’s apparent condonation of the statements and actions of Field Project Supervisor Art Van Riper. Since the beginning of the remodeling project, employees complained that Van Riper repeatedly called them lazy, yelled at them, and said to an African-American employee as he placed a rope around a counter, “if it was up to me, I would put that rope around your neck.” Additionally, Van Riper told employees that he did not want to hear about unions and, as set forth below, expressed his dislike for unions directly to employees.”
- Since the initial 2014 NLRB administrative law judge ruling, Walmart has been appealing the NLRB decision and another appeal was set to appear in the 9<sup>th</sup> circuit court this month.
- Walmart and the NLRB General Counsel finalized the settlement yesterday (attached) in which Walmart withdraws its appeal, ultimately accepting the NLRB's decision finding them at fault.