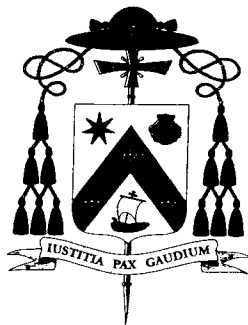


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DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

September 16, 2009

Mr. William E. Crenshaw, CEO
Publix Supermarkets, Inc.
3300 Publix Corporate Parkway
Lakeland, FL 33811

Dear Mr. Crenshaw:

As Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida, I am deeply concerned with the difficult conditions facing farmworkers in our state. As you may know, farmworkers earnings are below the poverty level and seven cases of forced labor have been federally prosecuted here in Florida.

This letter is sent to urge you and the corporate executives of Publix Super Markets Inc. to enter into an agreement with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers similar to the ones signed by Taco Bell/Yum Brands, McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, Bon Apetit and Whole Foods.

It may be true that you cannot control how your suppliers (or the major tomato growers) treat their workers. On the other hand, Taco Bell/Yum Brands, McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, Bon Apetit, and Whole Foods have agreed that they have tremendous influence over their suppliers, and Publix can itself improve the wages and provide economic relief for the workers by paying one penny a pound more.

By entering into an agreement with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, more desirable working conditions can be put into effect. A proper monitoring system involving both your company and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers can go a long way in recognizing the human dignity of the workers. This action would also signal that Publix Supermarkets, Inc. wishes to ensure "zero" tolerance for forced labor and human trafficking.

I am confident that you will agree that for far too long, these workers have had to function on the margins of our society. Please join other companies to help correct this situation.

Thanking you for serious consideration you give to the matter, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

+ Frank J Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

FJD/clc

cc: Neil Michaud, Office of Peace and Justice ✓