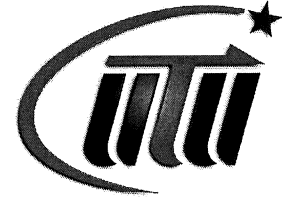


united transportation union
Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway General Committee of Adjustment GO-245



K.E. Trauernicht, 1st Vice Chairman
J.A. Scott, 2nd Vice Chairman
B.M. Drummond, 3rd Vice Chairman

8250 West 80th Avenue
The Meadows Centre, Units 7&8
Arvada, Colorado 80005
Phone: (303) 420-1848
March 10, 2008

S.M. Waller, 4th Vice Chairman
S.M. Waller, Secretary

M.B. Futhey, Jr.
International President, UTU
14600 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44107-4250

Re: Charges Against Select Members Of UTU Board Of Directors

Dear Sir and Brother,

This office was recently made aware of a disturbing matter unfolding within our Organization. Specifically, that internal charges have been levied against seven members of the UTU Board of Directors for, it seems, simply embracing an opinion that is not consistent with the current administration.

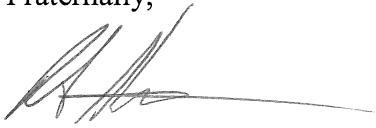
I have been a member of this Organization for almost thirty-five years, serving as an officer in some capacity for the past seventeen of those. During this entire period, I have not only witnessed times of pride and brilliance but, unfortunately, moments of darkness and corruption. My observations over the years consistently indicate that during our weakest times, intolerance prevailed internally. I am therefore deeply concerned with the manner in which members of our governing body are being subjected to unfounded ridicule, criticism, and now charges, for voicing their disagreement with your attempts to derail the merger between the UTU and SMWIA.

Whether one supports or does not support efforts to consummate the merger has become secondary, in my opinion. We instead need to focus on being the unified voice of our membership, while simultaneously cultivating and drawing from our differing opinions internally. Our membership is not being served if we allow these charges to go uncontested.

While serving as General Chairman the past five years, I have had the pleasure of working alongside four members of the current Board of Directors that are also the target of these charges; J.W. Babler, J.R. Cumby, C.A. Iannone, and J.D. Fitzgerald. All of these brothers are an asset to our Organization and their loyalty to the UTU is without doubt. I have not always agreed with them but, nonetheless, their devotion and talent have earned my deepest respect.

I therefore respectfully request that as our President, you assist with protecting these elected officers from the ill-conceived and inappropriate utilization of our Constitution for the self-serving efforts of those who display no tolerance.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.S. Knutson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R.S. Knutson
General Chairman

cc: Local Chairmen, GO-245
J.W. Babler, UTU VP
J.R. Cumby, UTU VP
C.A. Iannone, UTU VP
J.D. Fitzgerald, UTU VP