

# LOCAL 1473

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## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### UNION FIGHTS METCALFE'S VIOLATIONS OF FEDERAL LABOR LAWS

MILWAUKEE, WI APRIL 8, 2013:

On April 5, 2013 United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1473 filed 45 separate charges that Metcalfe's violated federal labor laws at its Madison stores. The new allegations come on the heels of litigation brought by the federal government against Metcalfe for committing unfair labor practices under federal law.

In October 2012 the Milwaukee Office of the National Labor Relations Board found that Metcalfe had violated federal labor laws when he broke off negotiations with Local 1473 and then slashed the take home pay of his workers at his Madison Hilldale and his Wauwatosa stores. The government's Complaint alleges that in April 2012 Metcalfe acted in bad faith toward the Union and his workers and that Metcalfe then illegally slashed the take home pay of his Madison workers. Since April 2012 Metcalfe has continued to interfere with his workers' federally protected rights to form a union at the West Towne store.

Metcalfe's violations were orchestrated by the same law firm used by Scott Walker in his assault on state and municipal workers and by the Fitzgerald brothers in their denial of voting rights of Latinos. Despite the pending

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litigation, Metcalfe continues his attack on worker rights. The Union's latest allegations ask the government to seek a court order against Metcalfe for his violations of federal law.

Local 1473 stands ready to fight Metcalfe's attempts to lower workers' wages and benefits. John Eiden, President of Local 1473, stated today, "In these economic times we need jobs that contribute to the economic stability of the community. No community can sustain itself if employers cut wages and benefits that harm the hard working people who live and work there. Workers have a right to a decent living for themselves and their families. Workers who contribute to an employer's profitability and success should not be rewarded with pay cuts. The Union will fight any employer who refuses to treat his workers with dignity and respect and who refuses to pay them fair wages and benefits for their contributions to their employer and society." Eiden added, "We are disappointed that Metcalfe is seeking public subsidies from the City of Madison to further his business interests. The Union hopes the City of Madison sees Metcalfe's actions for what they are--a blatant attempt to pick the pockets of the City, just as he has picked the pockets of his workers."