

Sisters and Brothers.

I have been trying to communicate as much information as possible to the membership regarding the recent struggles we have been experiencing pertaining to the off site inspection area. In my first communication I reported to the membership the recognition of an offsite inspection/repair area for export units that was established in Milton. We as a local union had no discussions pertaining to this off site endeavour. As said before we immediately told the company this was our locals work and this off site operation needed to stop immediately. At first we were told no worries it's all warranty issues, then we were told it's a beautification detail we are doing and now they are telling us it's port authority inspection being done. We immediately asked for clarification, what does pre port inspection mean? Before a vehicle can be exported overseas the port authority does their own inspection of vehicles to make sure no damage has occurred from the plant to the port of export. Last time I checked there is no port of export in Milton.



As we continued to amass more information over the last couple of days there is no doubt the work being performed in Milton is without a doubt our work. The company is performing a scaled down version of FCPA inspection. Any concerns or repairs that were found were being repaired by Roush employees. We have FCPA inspectors in the plant that do this work on a daily basis. As I stated earlier I contacted Ford upper management in Dearborn telling them to shut down this off site operation. I was told they were not sure if they were able to do that, my response was don't worry we will do it for you. I was told you don't have the authority to do that and again my response was sorry we already did it.

Today (Thursday) at 2 pm we were informed that Ford was no longer shipping any units from the plant to Milton. At approximately 5 pm the company notified us that they have shut down the Milton operation and are sending all vehicles in need of repair back to the plant. There are approximately 200 units that remain in Milton and the company has committed that OUR members will complete the inspection and repair of these remaining units. The Roush employees as well as the temp employees have been sent home. Great job by all local leadership and thanks for everyone's support.

This in NO way takes away from the fact Ford had no discussions with the local union prior to this site being established or to the fact that Ford had outside people performing our work. Everyone will remember we posted for mod centre jobs and can't understand why the company opted not to use these employees. We have asked for a high level meeting with the company as well as with the National Union. We have a tentative meeting scheduled for Monday, I will keep the membership updated. We will grieve for every unit that was shipped off-site.

I have been trying my best to keep the membership abreast of all information available. I would like to thank you for all the support you have shown the local leadership, we are only as strong as the members we serve. Bargaining is fast approaching and we must stay united to reach our common goals.

In Solidarity
Dave Thomas
President Unifor Local 707