



Cintas Partners Tell Union, “Enough Is Enough”

A Letter to the Editor of the Post-Standard News, Syracuse, NY

To the Editor:

We are writing in response to the numerous articles and letters to the editor regarding Cintas Corp. and its proposed building project in Onondaga County. Many of the comments were provided by UNITE and others affiliated with the union. As partners at Cintas, and as former UNITE members, we feel it's time people hear the truth from those who have lived both sides of the issue.

At Cintas, we have excellent benefits that include very competitive wages and affordable health care. We have profit-sharing and an excellent 401 K program. We also enjoy free life insurance and voluntary life insurance that covers partners, their spouses and dependents.

Unfortunately, some of us at Cintas have had the displeasure of working for a company where we were “represented” by UNITE. We did not have a choice as to whether or not we wanted to be union members. Then, to add insult to injury, after working hard for this union shop, we lost our livelihood when the company went out of business. No benefits were extended to us, and we were offered no severance package. Did UNITE help us? No.

Cintas treats us with respect, values our opinions, and appreciates our hard work. Our motto is, “Great People Make a Great Company.” We don't need or want the union. We don't need someone to speak for us. We can and do speak for ourselves.

Cintas wants to build a new plant because we've outgrown our current facility. Cintas is not taking jobs out of Onondaga County. Instead, we want to bring more jobs to the area. In a community where so many jobs have been lost, isn't this a step in the right direction? Why then all the Cintas bashing?

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*Liz Cipriano - Solvay, Sally Mattison - Parish, Wanda Butchino - Parish
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