

January 11, 2011

Good morning Mayor and City Commissioners,

Thanks for this opportunity. My name is Joe Rastatter. I reside in the Hollywood District with my beloved wife Melinda. I'm a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, and a member of *Unite HERE Local 8* for my job of selling beer and peanuts at Major League events in Seattle. I'm also a co-chair of *Jobs with Justice's* Faith/Labor Committee. Two events help to sustain my spirit this time of year: The Martin Luther King Day Celebration at Highland Christian Center this next Monday, and our Jobs with Justice Annual Faith Labor Breakfast this year set for March First. Please attend.

I was touched by the testimony of war veterans last week to this body, and I agree it's essential to provide substantial memorial. My recently deceased father Robert was an army sergeant who served directly under George Patton, and he is the person most responsible for my values. Raised in an orphanage after his father was killed in an industrial accident, Dad became the type of Catholic most concerned with service to the poor. He believed, as I do, that the growing disparity between the super rich and everyone else is a national disgrace, and I would add is sustained by a war on workers. As a *Jobs With Justice* person, my Dad believed that fighting for justice at the workplace was a great way "to support the troops".

What happens at the local level is very important. Portland development deals need to be evaluated for its justice content. Do they lift up the poor or increase the disparity? Past deals with Paul Allen at The Rose Quarter and with Portland Family Entertainment at Civic Stadium busted unions and workers lost ground. Workers deserve to be treated fairly everywhere but especially at our publicly owned properties. Fair wages and just treatment of workers should be written in as part of the deal. Easier said than done. Watching and advocating for hundreds of hours over the last ten years, here's two of my highlights: 1) When PGE Park employees were threatened to be fired (by an interim owner) if they talked to you City Council members, or to me, about the Fair Wage Ordinance, 2) When I told an usher grandmother that the Ordinance was going to kick in again and raise her wage from \$8.25 to \$10.00 an hour, she cried in relief.

The Fair Wage Ordinance is flawed, but still very important to struggling workers. It will take conscientiousness on your part to see it implemented properly and include all workers it was intended to. If workers at Civic Stadium decide to organize a Union, it is very important to see their efforts be treated fairly.

Please do what you can do to promote good jobs with justice in our community. Thank you.

Peace,

Joe Rastatter
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Portland, OR 97213-2040 503-891-6217 JoeRastatter@aol.com

The Fair Wage Ordinance is flawed but still important to get needed wages to struggling workers. It is flawed because 1) it only covers about ½ of the work force. Ushers, gate attendants, ticket sellers, field crew, and custodians, I believe, are covered. Food and souvenir concession workers, suite attendants, and security workers are not covered.

2) The last \$2 dollars or so of wages come from the City's side of the partnership. Responsibility for decent wages should be solely from the Owner/Operator side.

3) The 'fair wage' for stadium workers is not a livable wage. A single person working full time in Multnomah County needs to be making \$14.00 per hour working full time. An \$18-\$20 per hour wage is needed to support a worker with one or two dependents.

Moore-Love, Karla

From: JoeRastatter@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:17 PM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Cc: brenda@jwjpgdx.org
Subject: Joe Rastatter's Request

Dear Karla, Yes, please schedule me for a (still three minute presentation?) before Wednesday's January 12th's City Council Meeting. I plan to represent myself as a co-chair of Job's with Justice's Faith Labor Committee and speak about fair wages at PGE Park. Sincerely, Joe Rastatter 2006 N.E. 50th,Portland Or. 97213 503-891-6217 Thank you.

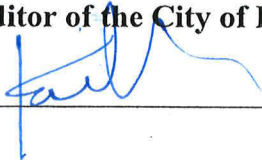
Request of Joe Rastatter to address Council regarding fair wages at PGE Park
(Communication)

JAN 12 2011

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JAN 07 2011

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Leonard		
Adams		