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# The *Justice Will Be Served!* Campaign

Sponsored by:  
Chinese Staff & Workers Association • National Mobilization Against Sweatshops • 318 Restaurant Workers Union

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*Celebrating 10 Years*

Dear Friend,

From Bowery to Broadway, this year restaurant workers are making a special delivery to unscrupulous bosses throughout New York City. Building on the successes won by Chinatown waiters and busboys over the past ten years, several hundreds of food delivery workers have taken center stage, shaking up the city in a united effort to demand an end to sweatshop conditions in the restaurant industry. In only the past three months, workers have already transformed conditions in the delivery industry- not only have wages doubled, but delivery workers are now working shorter hours, giving them more time for their families and control of their lives.

At dozens of uptown Manhattan eateries, like the Ollie's Noodle Shop chain and Our Place Restaurant, delivery workers are stepping forward to challenge sub-minimum wages and miserable treatment - putting restaurant bosses throughout the city on alert. This uprising was stirred by the courageous organizing efforts of workers in Chinatown who have transformed their working conditions in the face of blacklisting, retaliation, and threats of physical violence.

One restaurant employer in particular is daring to publicly undermine this growing movement among delivery workers in order to preserve a system of exploitation and abuse that bosses have taken advantage of for years. Not only were the delivery workers at Saigon Grill earning as little as \$1.60 an hour in wages, but they were slapped with outrageous "penalties" of up to \$200 for late deliveries. When the delivery workers began organizing together to change these conditions, the owners demanded that the workers sign an illegal contract stating that the workers received minimum wage and overtime. On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, when the workers refused to sign the contract and lie about the conditions, the Saigon Grill owners illegally locked out its entire delivery staff from both restaurant locations on the Upper West Side and Union Square.

These thirty-six former Saigon Grill employees, together with the support of fellow delivery workers from other midtown and uptown eateries, are now launching daily pickets of the restaurant, making it the focal point of this effort to call for an end to sweatshop conditions in Manhattan restaurants. Having gone from one job to another only to find the same dismal conditions, delivery workers everywhere see in this fight a promise of widespread changes in the entire industry. Now, Chinese and Latino delivery workers are uniting together to make this happen. Other service workers, including supermarket baggers, servers, bus persons, and nail salon workers are uniting their support around the Saigon Grill workers, breaking down the walls between different communities, ethnicities, and trades. Since the lockout, the Saigon Grill workers have also filed a Federal lawsuit, and have taken their story live on radio and television airwaves, university classrooms and forums - galvanizing an outpouring of support from elected officials, Upper West Side community associations, local faith-based groups, and students.

We urge you to join the *Justice Will Be Served!* campaign at this critical moment to help build this new labor movement and engage in this struggle to transform the future of working people.

*Justice Will Be Served! (JWBS)* is a campaign that unites restaurant, hotel, deli, and other service workers in different communities across New York to fight against long hours, second-class wages, stolen tips & other sweatshop conditions.

**Endorsed by: (list on formation) Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Senator Eric Schneiderman, Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal, Councilmember Gale Brewer, Community Free Democrats, Park River Independent Democrats, NYC Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, UAW Region 9A, Industrial Workers of the World**

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