INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA - UAW

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March 8, 2025

Statement from UAW Region 1 Director LaShawn English

At UAW Region 1, we stand in unwavering solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Canada and across North America. Our fight has always been for a fair economy that supports all working people—whether they carry a UAW card or not. The exploitation of workers through so-called "free trade" has devastated manufacturing communities on both sides of the border, and we believe it is time for a new, just trade policy that prioritizes working families over corporate greed.

Tariffs are a tool, but they must be applied fairly. We do not support policies that pit workers in one country against another. Instead, we call for a trade framework that protects and uplifts the working class across North America. That means securing strong, enforceable labor standards, stopping companies from exploiting poverty wages abroad, and ensuring that good union jobs remain the backbone of our economies.

UAW Region 1 remains committed to fighting for policies that keep jobs in North America and ensure fair treatment for all workers—whether in Detroit or Windsor, Flint or Oshawa, Warren or Brampton. We will continue pushing for a new trade deal that delivers justice for the working class, holds corporations accountable, and strengthens the bonds of solidarity between UAW members and our Canadian brothers and sisters in the labor movement.

We look forward to working with the White House and all stakeholders to ensure that trade policy serves workers first—not just corporate profits. We will not allow the mistakes of the past to be repeated. Instead, we will forge a future where working-class communities thrive together, regardless of borders.

In Solidarity,

LaShawn English

UAW Region 1 Director

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