



**Affordable Health Care, Unfair Labor Practices Main Issues of Strike**

**WHO IS INVOLVED?**

Workers at the Milk-Bone facility in Buffalo, New York are represented by BCTGM Local Union 36G. Over 165 workers at the facility make a wide variety of Milk-Bone pet products and have been represented by the BCTGM since 1957.

**WHEN DID THE STRIKE BEGIN?**

Workers hit the picket line at 12:00 a.m. on October 28, 2024. The Company and the Union had been negotiating a new contract since September 23.

**WHAT IS THE MAIN ISSUE?**

**Affordable Health Insurance:** Employees entered negotiations hoping to improve their current health insurance policy. Instead of offering improvements, Smucker’s actually came to the bargaining table with a worse policy that would cost employees more. To make matters worse, during last ditch negotiations to reach a deal, the company actually took a step backwards and offered an even worse proposal than their original offer.

**Unfair Labor Practice Charges Filed with Federal Government.** The Union filed labor charges against Smucker’s for regressive bargaining and for trying to intimidate and threaten workers who chose to legally go on strike.

**WHO OWNS MILK-BONE?**

Milk-Bone is owned by food giant J.M. Smucker Co., which had sales over \$8 billion dollars in 2024 because of well-known brands including: *Jif* peanut butter, *Uncrustables* sandwiches, *Folgers* coffee, *Hostess* snack cakes, *Smucker’s* jam/jelly, and pet food products including *Milk-Bone*, *Meow Mix* and *Purperi*.

J.M. Smucker is run by CEO Mark Smucker. Over the last three years, Mr. Smucker has raked in over \$30 million dollars in executive compensation.



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