

Stop FBI Repression of Anti War/Union Activists

Committee to Stop FBI Repression

Pledge to resist FBI, Grand Jury repression:

- We will carry forward the fight for our right to speak out, organize and to stand in solidarity with those who want freedom.
- We will stand up to any escalation of the attacks on anti-war and international solidarity activists.

We will join the national day of protest when anti-war and international solidarity activists are ordered to appear in front of the Chicago Grand Jury or indicted.

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**Sign the
Pledge
today**

In September the FBI raided the homes of anti-war and international solidarity activists in Chicago and the Twin Cities. 14 people were given subpoenas to appear before a grand jury. In December, 9 more activists in Chicago were subpoenaed to the grand jury.

The targeted activists are refusing to be pulled into the grand jury where they'll be asked about their political views or their organizing against wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, or their efforts to support the people of Palestine or Colombia.

They are exercising their 5th Amendment Right. Why are they refusing to talk to the grand jury? Doesn't every American want their day in court? A grand jury is different. The grand jury is a secret court that is used to intimidate those who speak out against war and oppression. There is no judge. You have no right to have your lawyer present. You can't question witnesses against you. You don't have the right to present evidence in your behalf. And if you take the 5th, you can be jailed for refusing to testify.

Nine of the activists are trade unionists – founding members, officers, staff, member activists, and leaders in AFSCME, SEIU and Teamsters union locals. As folks in unions know, you don't want to be pulled into a disciplinary meeting without a steward. Imagine how much worse it would be if you didn't have the right to due process; if the hearing only permitted management's side of the story.

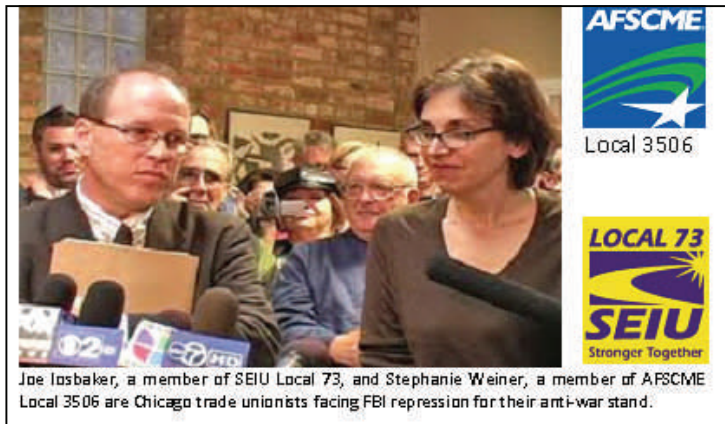
Trade Unions Take a Stand for Civil Liberties

These activists are taking a principled stand against repression. They have committed no crimes. Instead they are being targeted because they have opposed the US government's wars and funding for occupations and repressive regimes.

Important labor groups are speaking out against this repression. Minnesota AFSCME Council 5; SEIU Illinois State Council; AFSCME Local 3800 (U of MN Clerical Workers); AFSCME Local 3506 (Chicago City College Adult Education Training Specialists); the Chicago Teachers Union; Teamsters Local 705; and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America have all made statements. Central labor councils in San Francisco, Duluth, San Jose, New Haven, Connecticut, and Troy, New York have also passed resolutions.

Altogether, unions representing over 500,000 workers across the country have adopted resolutions to oppose repression by the FBI and US Attorney Pat Fitzgerald.

As the statement by UE's General Executive Board stated, "...the labor movement has often been in the forefront of defending the right to speak and protest. Unionists have understood that without the ability to speak out, union efforts would be crushed." Please add your voice. Go to www.stopfbi.net to learn more about the case and to find out how to get involved.



Joe Iosbaker, a member of SEIU Local 73, and Stephanie Weiner, a member of AFSCME Local 3506 are Chicago trade unionists facing FBI repression for their anti-war stand.

