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SPACE NEEDLE APPEAL TO BE HEARD BY WASHINGTON'S 9th CIRCUIT COURT
COMPANY'S ATTEMPT TO GAIN HEARING BY RIGHT-WING DC COURT IS SHOT DOWN

SEATTLE--A federal judicial panel announced Thursday that the Space Needle LLC's appeal of the January 30 National Labor Relations Board ruling would be heard by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, not the DC Circuit Court as sought by lawyers for the Space Needle.

The Space Needle's decision to further prolong legal proceedings stemming from unfair labor practice charges filed by workers and their union in 2013 shows an ongoing refusal to admit wrongdoing and abide by federal law. In their refusal, they sought to move the case across the country for review by a more right-wing panel of judges, including many appointees of former President Bush, who are not familiar with Washington State or its citizens.

Fortunately, UNITE HERE Local 8 was successful in its efforts to stop the case from being moved, and the appeal will be reviewed by judges with jurisdiction over Washington State.

This is the latest victory for workers in their fight for raises and respect at the Space Needle. It is also good news for those workers who were not recalled as a result of the Space Needle's illegal anti-union activities and who would return to work if previous rulings are upheld.

A majority of Space Needle workers recently delivered a petition to management, as well as to the Seattle City Council, calling on the company to give them a raise. The Space Needle faced public scrutiny this week amidst revelations that the company offered workers a web presentation on how to "live on less" in response to the call for raises.

Space Needle owners, who also operate the Chihuly Garden and Glass exhibition at Seattle Center, received further criticism Friday from the Seattle City Council as the Council reviewed issues related to the Artists at Play playground. The playground was originally presented to the City of Seattle as an entirely privately-funded undertaking, but has in fact received public funds.

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