

**THEY
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UP
BY
SITTING
DOWN
Support
Chicago
Workers**



In Chicago, 260 workers – members of United Electrical Workers Local 1110 – have occupied their workplace, Republic Windows and Doors, after the company shut down the plant on Friday, Dec. 5 with only three days notice.

Bank of America precipitated this plant closing by cutting off credit to the company. Yet we, the taxpayers, gave Bank of America \$25 billion in bailout funds. We were told that the massive financial bailout would keep credit flowing to businesses and maintain jobs. Instead, Bank of America is using the bailout money to buy up other banks and become even bigger.

Republic workers in Chicago saw their jobs suddenly taken from them, and did not even receive vacation pay they'd earned or plant closing pay to which they are entitled. The federal WARN Act says workers must get 60 days notice of a plant closing, or 60 days pay if it closes without notice. Republic managers claim Bank of America withheld the funds needed to pay workers what they are owed.

News reports indicate that Republic Windows has plans to move its operations to a plant in Iowa, and employ non-union workers at lower wages. The brave fightback of the workers at Republic through their union, UE, has galvanized outrage across the country as wealthy bankers get federal relief, while workers are left to sink. These same banks caused the current economic crisis through fraudulent mortgage practices. We need economic recovery from the bottom up, not the top down.

To learn more and find out how you can help, visit the union's website, www.ueunion.org.



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