



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE • BALTIMORE, MD 21215-3297 • (410) 580-5777

BENJAMIN TODD JEALOUS
President & Chief Executive Officer

ROSLYN M. BROCK
Chairman, Board of Directors

August 12, 2011

Mr. Lowell McAdam
President and CEO
Verizon
140 West Street
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. McAdam:

Congratulations on recently being appointed CEO of Verizon.

The NAACP recognizes and appreciates Verizon's continuing commitment to a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-gender workforce, as well as your reputation for encouraging diversity at all levels. With this in mind, it stands to reason that Verizon has consistently been among the top scoring telecom corporations on the NAACP's Telecommunications Industry Report Card every year and we look forward to working with you as you build on that established legacy of corporate diversity and excellence. I am writing at this time however, to offer our assistance as Verizon continues its' contract negotiations with the Communications Workers of America (CWA).

The NAACP also applauds the hard work and ingenuity which have driven the significant profits posted by Verizon, and appreciates your contribution to our country's economic well being. You have long provided your employees with the type of salaries and benefits that not only attract the sort of great workers who build great companies, but also help build strong families and healthy communities.

In these tough times for our nation, it is especially important that great companies like yours maintain such traditions—both for the sake of the workers and their families, as well as for that of the local economies who depend on their spending.

We are deeply concerned that 45,000 workers are currently going without paychecks in an apparent effort to hold on to their benefits. As I recently conveyed to Larry Cohen, President of CWA, we pray this apparent impasse will soon be bridged and through good faith negotiations, a "win-win" resolution will be found for your great company, for your great workers, and for the families and communities that depend on them for support.

Thank you for reading this letter. I look forward to sitting down with you soon. In the interim, please never hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at the number above or through Mr. Hilary Shelton, the Director of the NAACP Washington Bureau and the Senior VP for Advocacy and Policy. Mr. Shelton can be reached at (202) 463-2940.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Todd Jealous
President and CEO

www.naacp.org

