

June 16, 2009
New Bedford, MA

Dear Brigadier General Peter Fuller,

I am writing to you with utmost respect and admiration to seek your help for us, the workers at Eagle Industries in New Bedford, Massachusetts. I want to tell you how painful it has been to hear that we will lose this employment – it is especially difficult for the older employees. I have cried with them but I have also given them some peace and hope.

While we watch the equipment being moved out of the plant, I would also like you to know that the workforce includes people who pay home mortgages, parents of young children who both work at Eagle, pregnant women and middle-aged people. All of us depend on this employment.

What are we to do?

1. As an unemployed person, my family cannot afford a monthly mortgage payment of \$2000. My son and I both work at Eagle and will soon both be unemployed.
2. In families where multiple members work at Eagle, how will they now pay their rent? Because only on welfare and food stamps one cannot survive in this country. They help, but are not enough.
3. How will the seniors support themselves? Many of them cry because they think that they will end up in a nursing home, due to the fact that their age does not permit them to easily find employment.

In your hands is the future of the city of New Bedford and its inhabitants. Because this employment is a government contract for our soldiers, only your hands, respectable Mr. Fuller, and faith in God, can help us to continue working and to keep this contract in New Bedford so that we can continue paying our mortgages and putting food on our tables. God illuminates the human heart and sees our need. This ATK company has left us sad and helpless because they have never given us the opportunity to express ourselves, as workers and providers for their business.

We hope that you will give us your support. Many thanks and God bless.

Sincerely,

Elisa Rios, Eagle Industries worker

Att.: Eagle Industries workers.