

## **SPEEA charges Boeing with violating labor law during employee orientation**



**SEATTLE** – Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charges were filed Tuesday (Aug. 21) against The Boeing Company by the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA), IFPTE Local 2001. Charges were filed after union representatives heard company officials tell new employees they are prohibited from saying negative things about their employment. Such discussions by union members are protected by the National Labor Relation Act (NLRA). Employers’ efforts to curb these discussions violate federal law.

The comments by a representative of Boeing Ethics occurred during a new employee orientation meeting on Friday (Aug. 17), according the SPEEA.

In addition to this obvious violation of labor law, SPEEA has received numerous complaints from employees about managers telling them to remove and not display union material at their personal workstation. Employees also report finding union-related items removed from individual work areas when they arrive at work to start a new work day.

SPEEA is gathering additional information and has asked members to document and report any such conversations with managers or the removal of items from their desks.

SPEEA is presently negotiating new contracts with Boeing for 23,000 engineers and technical workers, primarily in the Puget Sound region. The union presented its full proposal to Boeing on June 15. The company has not yet presented a contract offer to the union. Existing contracts expire Oct. 6.

A local of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), SPEEA represents 26,560 aerospace professionals at Boeing, Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita, Kansas, and Triumph Composite Systems, Inc. in Spokane, Wash.

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Contact: Bill Dugovich, SPEEA communications director, (206) 674-7368 or (206) 683-9857  
Ray Goforth, SPEEA executive director, (206) 433-0991