

## Union workers file federal civil rights charges against Cretex

Written by  
Friday, 02 August 2013 14:58

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Fifteen members of Laborers Local 563 filed Federal civil rights charges with the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission (EEOC) against Cretex for its treatment of Latino workers.

Members of Local 563 who work at Cretex' Shakopee concrete plant have been on the picket lines since June 19 when they went on strike to protest company plans to slash retirement benefits. The group filing the class-wide civil rights charges with the EEOC includes both immigrants from Mexico and U.S.-born Latinos. All 15 employees say that they have been subjected to ongoing harassment, intimidation, and unequal treatment including being insulted by supervisors and coworkers who are reported to have said, "Mexicans have no brains" and "Mexicans are too stupid to use computers." The workers also claim they were harassed for speaking to one another in Spanish during breaks.

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