

CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW
AT QUEENS COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

65-21 MAIN STREET
FLUSHING, NEW YORK 11367

A Resolution to Ban Coca-Cola at CUNY Law School

- WHEREAS** CUNY School of Law is committed to law in the service of human needs and the pursuit of justice, **and**
- WHEREAS** Coca-Cola has bottling plants world-wide in many underdeveloped countries including Colombia, **and**
- WHEREAS** Many of these plants have been the sites of documented and egregious human rights abuses, **and**
- WHEREAS** Union activists at Coca-Cola plants in Colombia have been assassinated by paramilitary groups, **and**
- WHEREAS** A fact-finding delegation of labor, educator, and student representatives, led by New York City Council member Hiram Monserrate and including members of AFT, AFSCME/CSEA, and CWA, concluded, based on a 10-day trip to Colombia in January of 2004, that Coca-Cola is "complicit in human rights abuses in Colombia" and that its "complicity is deepened by its repeated pattern of bringing criminal charges against union activists who have spoken out about the company's collusion with the paramilitaries," **and**
- WHEREAS** Coca-Cola has been sued in the U.S. courts for human rights violations and labor abuses both in the U.S. and abroad, **and**
- WHEREAS** Union activists in Colombia are calling on their union brothers and sisters to boycott Coca-Cola, **and**
- WHEREAS** These acts of violence are inconsistent with CUNY's mission and maintaining a contract with Coca-Cola would serve to validate Coca-Cola's record of corporate social irresponsibility, **and therefore be it**
- RESOLVED** That the CUNY School of Law Student Government urges the Law School Association, all student groups and administrative offices to take action to remove Coca-Cola products from campus and cease all Coca-Cola deliveries to campus until the company has taken appropriate measures to address the situation in its Colombian facilities, including:



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- Denounce the violence that is occurring in the name of Coca-Cola in Colombia
- Respect the fundamental rights to free association and to organize trade unions, as reflected in Colombian law, Article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights, as well as Conventions 87 & 88 of the International Labor Organization.
- Announce publicly in Colombia its intention to participate in an independent investigation of the violence in its bottling plants
- Reinforce Coca-Cola's public stance against violence by directing all bottling plants in Colombia to stop dealing with any armed groups that are participating in violence against trade unionists.
- Establish a complaint and reporting process which will allow union members to report violations occurring in Coca-Cola bottling plants to an official of the company who will then investigate and take swift remedial action against these violations.
- Provide compensation to the known victims of violence at Coca-Cola bottling plants.

Sponsors: CUNY School of Law Labor Coalition
Shelley-Ann Quilty, 1L SG Representative
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