

Opening Statement

From the International perspective, we expect excellence from our members on the job every day. In exchange, what we expect from the employers is that our members are treated with dignity, respect, and fairness. A big part of showing our members that dignity, respect, and fairness is reflected in the contract. AT&T paid 48.5 billion dollars for DIRECTV and we believe a big part of that asset was its workers. Workers join union to improve their hours, wages, and working conditions, so obviously we'll be seeking to do that in these negotiations. These are your employees on the front lines who serve your customers every day. We seek a contract that recognizes their contribution to the business, and ultimately, it is my sincere hope and desire that both sides can walk out of these negotiations with their heads held high and with a contract that we can all be proud of.