



ALIANZA UNIDOS WORLD ACTION

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Tragedy at Amazon: On behalf of AUWA we hold the company responsible that prohibited its employees from leaving the Amazon Warehouse despite the alerts

From Alianza Unidos World Action (AUWA) we deeply regret the death of six (6) workers at the Amazon Warehouse in Edwardsville, Illinois, USA and we hold the company responsible.

This is a real workplace atrocity: despite the alerts, the company prohibited its workers from leaving the warehouse in order to protect themselves, generating this terrible catastrophe. This is another example of how companies make us precarious and exploit us to the point of taking our lives, in order to maximize their earnings.

On Friday night, December 10th, tornado warnings were triggered in several US states killing nearly 100 people. In addition to the fatalities, high winds caused countless damage and material losses.

One of the most resounding events that night was what happened in the Amazon warehouse in Edwardsville, Illinois, where six (6) workers of that company died. Despite the alerts hours before the tornado and even half an hour before it touched down, the company's response was a ban on leaving the facilities, and the "recommendation" to use the toilets like shelters. It is a true labor crime - those responsible must pay for these decisions that cost six (6) workers' lives and dozens of injuries.

The company, owned by Jeff Bezos the richest person on the planet, is known for its practices of super-exploitation, with terrible methods of control and surveillance of its workers and anti-union practices. Amazon imposes these inhumane working conditions to maximize their profits without even caring about the lives of their workers. As if that were not enough, Amazon does not even recognize the workers as its own - the vast majority of the employees of the Amazon Warehouse in Edwardsville are subcontracted through other companies. This will be one of the main arguments that Amazon will use to detach itself from any responsibility for the death of last Friday.

From Alianza Unidos World Action (AUWA) we send our condolence to the family members, we hold the Amazon company responsible for the situation and demand justice for the deceased workers. We continue to organize and fight around the world to end all these forms of precariousness that take hundreds of lives every year. We call on all platform workers and workers in general to join in this fight to end all these practices that deny our labor rights.

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