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January 19, 2011

Keith Holmes, President
Local 686, UWUA
9190 Marshall Street
Philadelphia PA 19114

Dear Brother Holmes:

It is with deepest sadness that the entire Utility Workers Union of America joins you and Local 686 in mourning the death of your member, Brother Mark Keeley.

We understand that Brother Keeley, the three other seriously injured brothers, and all other members of their crew exhibited outstanding bravery in their efforts to prevent this terrible tragedy.

Please accept the condolences of all UWUA locals and members across America. If there is anything we can do, or any way we can be of assistance to Brother Keeley's family, please let me know. Both I and our Chief of Staff, Stewart Acuff, are ready and available.

Finally, Brother Holmes, this is an all too tragic reminder that the members of the UWUA put their lives at risk every day as first responders in these kinds of crises. They are men and women that all can point to with pride, and I want to thank you for the outstanding leadership you bring to this union. Do let me know if there's anything you need.

In Solidarity,

D. Michael Langford
National President