



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES, AFL-CIO

Sent via USPS and via email to: jgmorikis@sherwin.com,
mcgarry@ppg.com, ncostolloe@pcapainted.org

May 6, 2021

Office of
Kenneth E. Rigmaiden
General President

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ONE AGENDA

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Mr. John G. Morikis
Chairman and CEO
Sherwin-Williams
101 W. Prospect Avenue East
Cleveland, OH 44115

Mr. Michael H. McGarry
Chairman and CEO
PPG Industries
One PPG Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15272

Mr. Nigel Costolloe
Executive Director
Painting Contractors Association
2316 Millpark Drive
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Dear Sirs:

At a time in this country where there is broad public and political support for expanding registered apprenticeship programs, we find the announcement of your partnership alarming. There is a significant political will to expand registered apprenticeship programs because of the benefits they offer to working people: paid, on the job training; safer, more productive workers; and a nationally recognized standard that uplifts industries.

Witnessing the introduction of a program that is substandard and does not seek to accomplish the same impact, is very concerning. We do not believe that this new program meets the definition of an apprenticeship, rather a paid training program. We believe this gives the false impression that commercial and residential painting can be done with a minimum of training, that it undermines our decades old apprenticeship model that has proven results and will be counterproductive to uplifting standards within the painting industry. We believe it is counterproductive to dedicate time and resources to programs that compete with Department of Labor and workforce development initiatives. The Registered Apprenticeship Technical Assistance Centers of Excellence, recently announced by the DOL, could not be more clear in their shared focus on building equity and opportunities for diverse communities.

We stand ready to work with anyone interested in expanding access to training and apprenticeships, and we would welcome your partnership with our federally registered Finishing Trades Institute. The IUPAT has been providing apprenticeships to painters for 134

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years and has set the standard for journeyman painting across the country. Each year we invest over 125 million dollars into our program and we have over 100 training centers with over 700 training representatives. We have the infrastructure already in place to provide top notch training to advance the much-needed workforce development goals of the industry.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss a shared partnership to expand registered apprenticeship programs to the future workforce of America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kenneth E. Rigmaiden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth E. Rigmaiden
General President

cc: GEB

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