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## Columbus Urges Court to Side with Workers as Trump Administration's Assault on Federal Workforce Threatens Essential Government Functions

*City Attorney Zach Klein joins cities to stand alongside AFL-CIO and thousands of workers in case that could have significant impact on Columbus and its residents*

**COLUMBUS, OH**— Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced that the City signed an amicus brief alongside dozens of cities and local government officials urging the U.S. District Court of Northern California to rule in favor of the AFL-CIO in its ongoing challenge to the Trump administration's recent decision to instruct the U.S. Office of Personnel Management to terminate thousands of probationary federal employees across all departments.

**“Government works best when it’s able to meet the needs of the people. Dramatically cutting workforce without considering the disruptions to essential functions is the antithesis of efficiency. Systems will be overwhelmed, applications will go unreviewed, and the delivery of goods and services—like vaccines, student loan applications, and benefits processing—will be slowed,”** said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein.

**“Make no mistake, these disruptions will be felt here in Columbus, both for city officials implementing programs and every resident who interfaces with the government. No one will be spared. That’s why I’m joining cities from across the country to stand alongside the AFL-CIO and thousands of American workers to urge the Court to block widescale terminations so that the essential functions of government people rely on every day remain efficient and operational.”**

In its filing, the cities say the mass terminations would directly harm local governments and their citizens by making the government slower, less efficient, and less responsive to the needs of the American People. Local governments rely on federal partners to provide timely and

essential services to residents, including emergency management, public safety, healthcare, and disease prevention, among others.

Wholesale cuts to the federal workforce would harm these efforts, with fewer workers to perform essential functions such as agricultural inspections, respond to urgent requests for federally controlled medications like drugs to fight smallpox and mpox as well as anthrax, participate in safety drills ahead of major events, and disseminate weather reports, just to name a few.