

GOOD MORNING LADIES AND GENTLEMAN,

MY NAME IS LATANYA MONTGOMERY. I AM A FORMER EMPLOYEE OF THE NOW DEFUNCT STARTECH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND A SHOP STEWARD FOR THE SPFPA INTERNATIONAL UNION, SERVING THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION/COLLEGE PARK, MD.

I DO NOT WISH TO PONTIFICATE BUT TO SPEAK TO YOU THIS MORNING FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF A SINGLE MOTHER OF FOUR. EVEN THOUGH I REPORTED FOR WORK EVERYDAY THAT I WAS SCHEDULED, OVER THE PAST 8 WEEKS I HAVE BEEN COMPENSATED FOR A MERE TOTAL OF 40 HOURS OF THOSE HOURS OF SERVICE.

AS I MENTIONED BEFORE I AM THE SINGLE MOTHER OF 4 CHILDREN, ONE OF WHOM RECENTLY GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL ON JUNE 1, 2007. MY DAUGHTER WAS DEPRIVED OF THE GRADUATION CELEBRATION THAT I PLANNED FOR THE BIGGEST DAY OF HER YOUNG LIFE, DUE TO MY CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION. MY SAVINGS HAVE BEEN DEPLETED AND MY CHECKING ACCOUNT STANDS OVERDRAWN.

I WANT EACH OF YOU TO IMAGINE THE DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE FACES OF MY CHILDREN WHEN I HAD TO EXPLAIN THAT MOMMY DOESNT HAVE THE MONEY TO DO NORMAL EVERYDAY THINGS SUCH AS A TRIP TO THE GROCERY STORE WHEN WE HAVE RUN OUT OF MILK. THE FEELING FOR ME IS INEXPLICABLE. I WANT EACH OF YOU TO IMAGINE THE EMBARRASSMENT

I HAVE FELT ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS HAVING TO BURDEN FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FOR FAVORS AND LOANS THAT I AM UNSURE OF WHEN OR IF I COULD PAY BACK.

I STRUGGLED EVERY MORNING WITH IMPETUOUS THOUGHTS OF WHY SHOULD I GO TO WORK WHEN I DIDNT KNOW IF OR WHEN I WOULD BE COMPENSATED FOR THE SERVICE I PROVIDED FOR AND UNDER STARTECH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY.MY CHILDREN, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS ASKED THE SAME QUESTION OF ME.I HAD TO MAKE A CONCIOUS DECISION EVERYDAY TO BE AN EXEMPLAR EXAMPLE FOR MY CHILDREN, THAT IT WAS MY DUTY AND TO HAVE FAITH THAT I WOULD MAKE IT THROUGH THIS DETRIMENTAL HARDSHIP, STRUGGLE, STRESS, AND STRIFE.

I AM NOT A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, OR EVEN A POLICE OFFICER, BUT I AM ESSENTIAL. I AM THE FIRST DEFENSE, THE EYES AND EARS FOR THE FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE AND HOMELAND SECURITY. A DETERRENT IF YOU WILL. SO EVEN AS THE MORALE OF MYSELF AND THAT OF MANY OTHER CONTRACT GUARDS IS AT AN ALL TIME LOW I, WE CONTINUE TO REPORT FOR DUTY.

I FEEL FURTHER VICTIMIZED (INDIRECTLY IF YOU WILL)BY THE RED TAPE, INVESTIGATION, AND THE TIME IT TAKES TO DEVISE AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN OF ACTION TO RIGHT THE WRONGS THAT HAVE BEEN DONE. HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO RECONCILE THIS SITUATION? THIS IS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WHERE I AS A CITIZEN DEPEND ON YOU (THE POWERS THAT BE)TO PROTECT ME FROM UNHEALTHY AND UNFAIR LABOR

PRACTICES.

I HAVE WAITED AND WONDERED WHERE IS THE GOVERNMENT, SURELY THEY MUST KNOW OF MY PRESENT PREDICAMENT. THERE MUST BE SOMEONE WHO MONITORS THE CONTRACTING COMPANIES AFTER AWARDING MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACTS. WE AS CONTRACT GUARDS HAVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PERSONNEL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COME INTO OUR RESPECTIVE WORKPLACES AND GOVERNMENT FACILITIES TO ENSURE THAT THE OFFICERS ARE IN COMPLIANCE ON A CONSTANT EVERYDAY BASIS WITHOUT WARNING. THE QUALITY ASSURANCE PERSONNEL CHECK EVERYTHING, ESPECIALLY THE CREDENTIALS YOU MUST OBTAIN AND KEEP VALID IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO WORK ON THAT GOVERNMENT CONTRACT. WHERE IS THE QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR THE ACTUAL COMPANIES?WHO GOES TO THE OFFICES,AND CHECKS THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE HEADS OF THE COMPANIES TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THEY ARE IN COMPLIANCE?WHO MAKES SURE THAT THE HEADS OF THESE COMPANIES HAVE OBTAINED AND MAINTAINED ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO CONTINUE TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT?

WITH RESPECT TO THE MATTER AT HAND AND THE REASON FOR THIS HEARING TODAY, I PROPOSE THAT THE MORALE OF THE CONTRACT GUARD IS THE SOLUTION FOR SAFE AND SECURE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AND FEDERAL OFFICE SPACE.I ALSO IMPLORE YOU TO FORM A DIRECT MEANS TO EXPEDIANTLY DEAL WITH THOSE COMPANIES WHO WOULD CONTINUALLY

VIOLATE THE SERVICE CONTRACT ACT, AND THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS IN PLACE RESPECTIVELY, AND TO BRING FORTH AND RESOLVE THESE SITUATIONS AS THEY ARISE. TO EXPEDITE AND FACILITATE THIS RESOLVE IN SUCH A MANNER SO THAT WE AS ESSENTIAL CONTRACT GUARDS DO NOT HAVE TO SUFFER LENGTHY PERIODS OF TIME WITHOUT RESULTS AND COMPENSATION.

I BELIEVE THAT I CAN SPEAK FOR MY FELLOW OFFICERS WHEN I SAY, THE FEELING OF THE IMPACT OF THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS IS ONE OF ANNIHILATION. I FEEL THAT EXAMPLES NEED TO BE MADE AND EXEMPLARY DAMAGES SHOULD APPLY AND ARE IN ORDER.

I PRAY THAT I WILL NEVER EXPERIENCE SUCH HARDSHIP AGAIN. MY FAMILY AND I HAVE SUFFERED LONG ENOUGH.

THANK YOU.