

Stand up for Labor and Human Rights!

Boycott SunTrust, the Bank of Killer Coke

Many colleges, universities, high schools, labor unions and human rights groups have terminated Coca-Cola contracts, removed Coke machines and fountains, and banned the sale and marketing of Coca-Cola products from their campuses, offices, union halls and events.

Unions with extensive business ties to SunTrust Banks, and representing hundreds of millions on deposit, are warning the bank that it faces an aggressive boycott by national and local unions, their members and others concerned with protecting labor and human rights. Why?

The Coca-Cola Company is complicit in the kidnapping, torture and murder of union leaders in Colombia, as it was in Guatemala in the 70's and 80's. And Coca-Cola shares six top policymakers with **SunTrust Banks**, including Coca-Cola's current CEO E. Neville Isdell. SunTrust also owns 5% of the Coca-Cola Company's stock and lends the company hundreds of millions of dollars. SunTrust is now teaming up with anti-union **Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.** to open dozens of bank branches in Wal-Mart stores. Former Coca-Cola CEO and SunTrust director Douglas Daft serves on Wal-Mart's board of directors.

The United Steelworkers of America and the International Labor Rights Fund filed a lawsuit in 2001 against Coca-Cola on behalf of SINALTRAINAL, the union representing Coke workers in Colombia; several of its members, and Isidro Gil, one of its murdered officers. The lawsuit charges that Coca-Cola bottlers "contracted with or otherwise directed paramilitary security forces that utilized extreme violence and murdered, tortured, unlawfully detained or otherwise silenced trade union leaders."



The seriousness of the situation is best summed up by SINALTRAINAL Vice-President Juan Carlos Galvis, who stated: "If we lose the fight against Coca-Cola, we will first lose our union, next our jobs and then our lives."

In January 2004, New York City Council Member and former police officer Hiram Monserrate led a delegation on a 10-day, fact-finding tour to Colombia to investigate allegations of human rights violations by Coca-Cola. As one member said upon returning: "We heard one story after another of torture and injustice. The sheer number of these testimonials was overwhelming." The delegation issued a scathing report in April 2004

concluding that "Coca-Cola is complicit in human rights abuses of its workers in Colombia" – and its "complicity is deepened by its repeated pattern of bringing criminal charges against union activists who have spoken out about the company's collusion with paramilitaries."

Beyond the matter in Colombia, the World of Coca-Cola is a world of lies, deception, immorality, corruption, and widespread environmental abuses.

And greed runs rampant at Coca-Cola's headquarters where top executives received hundreds of millions of dollars in stock options and bonuses, while laying off thousands of employees.

To find out how you can help hold Coca-Cola and SunTrust accountable and achieve justice for Colombian workers, contact the Campaign to Stop Killer Coke.



CAMPAIGN TO STOP *Killer Coke* • **718 852-2808**

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