



Dr. Eric Conti, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Craig Robinson, Director of Finance/Operations
Burlington Public Schools
123 Cambridge St.
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Dr. Conti and Mr. Robinson:

It has come to our attention that the New England Regional Council of Carpenters is distributing a libelous and inflammatory flyer in the Town of Burlington that attempts to impugn the good name and reputation of CTA Construction Co. Inc. As the general contractor on more than \$600 million in public work with very high customer satisfaction, CTA Construction is determined to set the record straight and to assure you our projects in Burlington will be completed with high-quality workmanship and within the project budget and schedule.

Burlington has made a substantial investment in its public schools, and CTA is proud to be a partner in improving the quality of education for your students. Burlington selected CTA Construction to build two schools, in part, because of our outstanding track record in constructing educational facilities across Massachusetts. Our client references provided to Burlington are testimony to the quality of our work, and we are confident that Burlington will continue to be an excellent reference for us.

Because of our success, CTA is targeted by the Carpenters' Union, which has tried unsuccessfully to recruit this company as a signatory. CTA is an open shop company so we may have access to 100 percent of the subcontractor market – union and non-union – which allows us to provide our customers with the best quality work at the most competitive prices. Frustrated by our decision to remain open shop, the Carpenters' Union has engaged in a shameless smear campaign full of false statements and irresponsible claims.

Reviewing the flyer distributed in Burlington, I'd like to draw your attention to several items:

- No concrete work has been demolished on CTA's projects in Billerica and Middleton. None. The Carpenter's statement is 100% false. In fact, CTA thoroughly tests all foundations on all projects to ensure they meet strength requirements. On every project, the architect, engineer, municipal building inspector and CTA's experienced construction professionals sign off on all foundations before work proceeds.
- The comments by the union about the quality of the roofing, wall and window flashing, and skylight are false. Please note the Carpenter's flyer fails to mention that the wall and skylight were constructed by union subcontractors. The building has no leaks.
- While Burlington Elementary School was open, there did remain normal punch-work items left to complete. This is typical on construction projects. Nonetheless, CTA met its commitment to the community to have the school ready for classes in a 100% satisfactory and safe environment. As of today there is only a few items remaining which will be completed over the December vacation.

- In Milford, there was a product issue with the manufacturer of the roofing material, not the workmanship, and the roof was not removed. In addition, the town issued a change order for improvements to the roof system, and the roof was installed to everyone's satisfaction. But the Carpenters fail to mention these facts.
- CTA requires all subcontractors to be in good standing with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and when CTA learned of one's debarment (due to an unintentional oversight of not extending worker's compensation coverage from New Hampshire to Massachusetts on a previous job unrelated to CTA), the subcontractor was terminated from the project.
- CTA requires all subcontractors to pay the prevailing wage rate and carry proper insurance coverage on every school project. CTA requires subcontractors to provide certified payrolls as a condition of payment. Citations issued against a subcontractor are disappointing and are often the result of an unintentional clerical error rather than an egregious act by an open shop contractor as the Carpenters' Union would have you believe. Regardless, it shows a system that is working to protect the employees. We support this system, and if we spot problems, we will bring them to the attention of the subcontractor and authorities.

CTA Construction stands by our work and our warranties. If there are problems, we fix them. If we are at fault, we pay for the repair. No construction company and project is perfect, but we strive every day to get as close as possible. I think the town and school officials in Burlington understand this from our long working relationship.

CTA Construction has a reputation of building it right and our overall client satisfaction rating is very high, as demonstrated by our 93 out of 100 ranking by the state's Division of Capital Asset Management. The body of work by CTA Construction is something that we are very proud of, and we will always defend ourselves against unjustified and irresponsible attacks.

If you have any questions about our company and our projects, or if you are interested in seeing for yourself the work we are doing, please do not hesitate to contact us by return email or at 781-786-6600

Sincerely,



Lyle Coghlin
Principal

Cc: Kevin Buckley - KBA Architects
Paul Griffin - CMS
Patrick Tompkins, Jeff Hazelwood – CTA Construction