

15205 52nd Avenue S

Seattle, WA 98188

[206] 433.0991

FAX [206] 248.3990

November 8, 2021 L21-143

National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) Attention: Tori Huster, President / Meghann Burke, Executive Director 1556 S Michigan Ave., Fl. 2 Chicago, IL 60605

Email: nwslplayers@gmail.com

## SPEEA supports players of the National Women's Soccer League

Dear President Huster and Executive Director Burke,

The 16,700 professional aerospace workers represented by the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA) IFPTE Local 2001, in Washington, Kansas, Oregon, Utah and California, strongly support your efforts to negotiate a contract that respects your skills and puts women on equal footing they so unfairly lack and rightly deserve with male players.

Additionally, we commend your work to secure a formal investigation into the disgraceful and inappropriate conduct players have been subjected to and the NWSL has failed to prevent.

It is long past time for the world of sports to start giving professional women athletes fair wages, benefits, and the respect all professionals deserve. The fact so many NWSL players struggle to make ends meet – often taking second or even third jobs – is a disgrace that lies squarely on the tables of owners and media stakeholders who allow it to continue and reap the benefits of this abuse. It must end.

As leaders of our professional aerospace labor union, we stand with you in your fight for equitable wages, benefits and a workplace free of harassment and abuse. Know the members of our union value your efforts and stand in awe of the skills and athleticism of your professional women soccer players.

Sincerely,

**SPEEA Executive Board** 

Ryan Rule President Chris Streckfus MW Vice President

**Shaunna Winton** Treasurer **John Dimas NW Vice President** 

**Dan Nowlin** Secretary Deena Hougham **NW Vice President** 

**AFL-CIO** cc:

opeiu:8/am