

STATEMENT BY:

James O. Moore, President  
Atlanta, Georgia Labor Council, AFL-CIO  
June 9, 1966

The early part of this year, the Atlanta, Georgia Labor Council, AFL-CIO went on record of supporting the Firefighters Local Union # 134, AFL-CIO in their request to city officials in seeking a 56 hour work week and time and a half-time for overtime. The local union did receive the time and a half-time for overtime, but did not receive the shorter work week. We did, and still think that the firemen are deserving of this relief, and believe that the city could have found a remedy for this situation. However, this did not happen, but was promised that it would be given first consideration for the year 1967. During the past several years, the city has consistently recognized the AFL-CIO, and has always shown good faith.

The Firefighters Local Union #134 chose to abide by this decision. This is what brought about the split in the firefighters union.

We want to make it clear that the 98 other local unions affiliated with the Atlanta, Georgia Labor Council, AFL-CIO do not subscribe nor condone the action of the so-called "Firefighters Independent Union".

We also commend the membership of the Firefighters Local Union #134 for not only remaining on their jobs, but during off hours, remaining on duty to see that the fire stations were properly staffed to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Atlanta. . . of which, our membership composed of 40,000 members, is also a vital part of our great city.

I further state that on Tuesday night, June 7th, Firefighters Local Union 134, AFL-CIO dispensed with their regularly scheduled meeting to



report to their respective fire stations, being firmly convinced that this was more important than holding a local union meeting at that particular time.