

WORKING AMERICA

A Community Affiliate of the AFL-CIO

815 16th St., N.W.

Washington, DC 20006

202-637-5137

www.workingamerica.org

For Immediate Release

Contact: Caren Benjamin (202) 637-5018

AFL-CIO Memo to All Employees: That CAN Get You Canned

July 9, 2007

As Americans, we sometimes take our rights and freedoms for granted, so much so that we simply assume that the rights we hold dear apply everywhere - including on the job. But the truth is, in the workplace such basics as free speech, and even free association don't necessarily protect you from getting fired.

Now, Working America, the 1.6 million-member community affiliate of the AFL-CIO, is offering "Ask a Lawyer" a way to find out what protections you have in the workplace. Just write in with a question about work then check back on the site for the information you need from a source you can trust. www.workingamerica.org/askalawyer/

Top Ten Strange But True Reasons Used to Fire Someone

1. Working too many hours
2. Blogging
3. Smoking
4. Holding a second job
5. Not asking the boss for permission to go on a date
6. Being hospitalized
7. Working fewer than 7 days a week
8. Working fewer than 100 hours a week
9. Taking a 5 minute break in the middle of a 10-hour shift
10. Not doing someone else's job along with your own.

Is that legal? See www.workingamerica.org/askalawyer/