

September 24, 2004

Todd Scartozzi
Senior Vice President of Operations
Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008

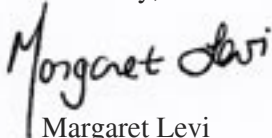
Dear Mr. Scartozzi:

It has come to our attention that hotel workers, organized by UNITE HERE, are currently negotiating contracts with a number of hotels and hotel chains in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. The affected hotels include some we are using for APSA conventions in 2005 and 2006, and likely well into the future. We want to let you know of our strong interest in seeing a positive outcome from these negotiations. These negotiations are of course a matter of great practical concern to the Association since a strike or lockout would gravely disrupt the service we have contracted for. A strike or lockout would dissuade many of our members from attending, as there is a significant number who would not cross a picket line. Should this occur, we would be compelled to look at all contractual options we have in response.

More broadly, it is a matter of strong principle for the Association that our business be conducted in an environment that is socially responsible and ethical, respects the rights and dignity of workers, and complies with all local laws regarding union activity. Judgments about the extent to which hotels meet these standards will certainly contribute to our decisions about firms we contract with in the future. We trust you share these values as well in your bargaining efforts.

We hope your negotiations soon lead to a contract acceptable to both parties and consistent with the principles mentioned above. Please assure us you will do everything in your power to reach an equitable and speedy outcome to your labor dispute with due respect to the demands of your workers and without resort to a lockout.

Sincerely,



Margaret Levi
President

cc:

Susan Giambalvo, Sales Manager
Michael Dutton, National Sales Manager, DC Convention & Tourism Corp.
Amy Willis, UNITE HERE