

The banner features the City of Detroit skyline in silhouette against a blue background. The text "CITY OF DETROIT" is in a large, light blue serif font, and "News Release" is in a smaller, white sans-serif font to the right.

CITY OF DETROIT News Release

Water and Sewerage Department

Dave Bing, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Monday, October 1, 2012

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FEDERAL JUDGE ISSUES ORDER PROHIBITING DWSD STRIKE

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) has received a temporary restraining order, effective immediately, which prohibits anyone, including union members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 207 and AFSCME Local 2920, from interfering with the department's operations with respect to a threatened strike or work stoppage. This morning's order came from U.S. District Court Judge Sean Cox, who has oversight authority over DWSD.

In the order, Judge Cox responded to a motion submitted by DWSD on Friday, which sought an injunction to prevent any type of employee work stoppage. By state law, anyone who works for a branch of state or local government is prohibited from participating in a strike. "The strike is illegal because of the public safety issues," said Sue F. McCormick, DWSD Director.

Mayor Dave Bing was pleased and appreciative of the judge's ruling. "It is imperative that there be no interruption in the service, no impact on the quality of the water provided to our citizens, and that there is no negative impact on the environment," said the Mayor.

A hearing on a permanent injunction is scheduled for Oct. 11 at 10 a.m. before Judge Cox.

DWSD supplies high-quality drinking water to Detroit and 126 other communities in southeast Michigan. The Department provides wastewater services to Detroit and 76 other southeast Michigan communities.

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