

TO: SSA Employee, Family and Friends

FROM: (Union Leader's name)

SUBJECT: **SSA Employee Protest**

Thank you for your participation in our demonstration today. There are a few simple rules we need to follow:

1. The Spokesperson to the press for the Union will be _____.
Any employee who wants to speak to the press about their personal situation **NEEDS TO DO SO AS A UNION MEMBER AND NOT AS AN EMPLOYEE.**
You should be ready to speak about the impact of the potential budget cuts, on the public you serve, and on your family if a furlough occurs. Please let _____ know that you would like to speak. We will be referring the media to those employees. **BEWARE: THE PRESS IS LIABLE TO BE VERY AGGRESSIVE.**
2. The demonstration will start at _____, please try to get there 5 or 10 minutes early so you can pick out a sign and we can be ready and in place by _____.
The demonstration should end by _____.
3. We need to hand out flyers to the SSA public. I will ask a couple of volunteers to coordinate the handing out of flyers. I would like to place a couple of people with posters at the front door with the folks handing out flyers. The rest of us should be on the sidewalk between the parking lot and _____, so a lot of people can see us.
4. You may store all posters and signs in the Union space when we are done.
5. You will be on your lunch period for the demonstration. If you need more time, you need to arrange for leave, credit hours, or to flex out. Please make sure that you cover 8 hours of work.
6. **OUR MESSAGE TO CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC IS:**
 - Support a budget for FY12 that will allow the Social Security Administration to provide the critical and necessary services to our community.
 - Oppose any cuts in the budget that would cause furloughs and/or SSA to shutdown. The backlogs would be severe and devastate public service. Phones will not get answered; lines for service will be longer, applicants will wait longer for appointments and benefits to start, appeals of denial before a judge will take much longer.