

UFW History - Brief Summary

- Mar 1962 Founded by Cesar & Helen Chavez
- Sep 1962 Founding Convention of Nat'l Farm Workers Association
- Sep 1965 Beginning of Delano Grape Strike - joint effort by NFWA + Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO
- Summer 1966 AWOOC + ~~NFWA~~ merge as UFWOC, AFL-CIO. UFWOC defeats Teamsters in critical grape election (531-331-19, 8/30/66)
- 1967 Start of first International Grape Boycott
- Jul 1970 Last of Table Grape Growers Sign Contracts in Delano
- 'Aug 1970 Huge Lettuce Strike in response to Teamster deals with ~~Growers~~
Lettuce boycott follows
- 1972 Farm Bureau legislative campaigns in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Arizona + California to destroy boycott with "farm labor" legislation
- Spring 1973 Grape contracts expire; growers turn to Teamsters; grape strike of 1973 + The second international grape boycott
- Jun 1975 In response to boycott, Gov Brown gets diverse groups behind Calif Agricultural Labor Relations Act
- Aug 1975 Elections begin; widespread violations of CALRA; Gov establishes enforcement task force; workers vote overwhelmingly for UFW (over Teamsters + no union)
- Feb 1976 Growers get legislature to de-fund the law; elections stop; UFW begins initiative drive; legislature relents
- 1977 With UFW winning more than 75% of elections, Teamsters withdraw from fields
- 1979 Imperial Valley / Salinas lettuce strike
- 1982 Deukmajian elected; appoints David Stirling as General Counsel; enforcement of CALRA withers
- 1984 UFW makes decision to return to the grape boycott
- 1986 Deukmajian re-elected