



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: [Michael DellaRocco](mailto:Michael.DellaRocco@capitalroots.org) at 518-274-8685
May 21, 2024

NLRB Judge Issues Favorable Ruling to Capital Roots, Inc., Affirms Decision to Withdraw Union Recognition as Employees Requested

Albany, New York – A National Labor Relations Board administrative law judge in Washington rejected claims made by SEIU Local 200 that Capital Roots, Inc. violated the National Labor Relations Act in dismissing two former employees, and ruled that Capital Roots was within its authority to withdraw recognition of the union as the bargaining unit for eligible staff, action the organization took at the request of employees who no longer wished to associate with the union. The judge, Arthur J. Amchan, also noted a handful of ministerial matters that Capital Roots will implement.

“Capital Roots thanks Judge Amchan for his thorough and impartial analysis of the facts and for his clear-eyed ruling in this case,” said Amy Klein, CEO of Capital Roots. “The past couple of years challenged us in unexpected ways, but I couldn’t be prouder of the way our team stuck together and remained focused on carrying out our mission of nourishing healthy communities. We’re grateful to the legions of volunteers, donors and other supporters who have stood with us because they know the tremendous, positive impact we have on the health and wellbeing of our community. Our team is energized and excited each day by the good we’re doing for our neighbors in the Capital Region.”

Capital Roots, at the request of employees, voluntarily recognized the local union as the bargaining representative for eligible employees in July 2022. Ten months later, also at the request of eligible employees, Capital Roots withdrew recognition. The NLRB’s general counsel alleged that this and actions against two former employees were unlawful, arguments Judge Amchan correctly rejected.

Anoush Koroghlian-Scott, Capital Roots Board President, said: “We are very pleased with the judge's decision, which reaffirms our organization’s commitment to fair labor practices and upholding and honoring the rights of our employees. With our current full team of dedicated staff, led by Amy Klein, Capital Roots is stronger than ever before, and we remain steadfast in our mission to serve our community and promote access to healthy foods for all.”

A copy of the judge’s ruling can be found [here](#).

– 30 –

About Capital Roots. Capital Roots is a 48-year-old nonprofit organization that nourishes healthy communities with more than 50 Community Gardens, the Veggie Mobile®, Healthy Stores, the Produce Project, Squash Hunger and more. Capital Roots is headquartered at the Urban Grow Center, a regional food hub focused on urban agriculture and produce distribution to four counties, enabling Capital Roots to deliver local food and services to underserved neighborhoods and low-income families. Learn more at www.capitalroots.org.