BOSTON'S MESSAGE TO CORPORATIONS AND THE 1%: PAY YOUR TAXES! TUESDAY, APRIL 17

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Tuesday, April 17 @ 5:30pm

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#99TaxDay: Hundreds Take to the Streets to Demand Massachusetts Tax Dodgers Pay their Fair Share

Mass march, rally will demand major corporations and the wealthiest 1% do their part to fund our communities – just like the rest of us do

**VISUALS: Life-size "corporate pig" CEOs, Huge helium-filled pig balloons,
Presentation of large-scale invoices to GE/Verizon/State Street/et al for taxes owed**

BOSTON, MA – This Tax Day – **Tuesday, April 17** – hundreds of Massachusetts taxpayers will take to the streets of Boston's Financial District to demand major corporations and the wealthiest 1% pay their fair share to fund our communities. The protests are part of <u>a growing, nationwide wave of discontent</u> against big corporations, the rich and politicians who have created an economic emergency for the 99% through rampant tax dodging.

From Dorchester to the North Shore, area taxpayers and community leaders will gather for a host of neighborhood-based demonstrations throughout the day, beginning at 12:00pm [details available on request]. The series of local actions will shine a light on the commonwealth's most egregious corporate tax dodgers – culminating at 5:30pm at Boston's Dewey Square, where hundreds of fellow fed-up residents will gather for a mass rally and march through Boston's Financial District. More than 30 community, labor and peace groups have joined together to call on corporations and the 1% to do their part to fund our communities – including the MASSUNITING coalition, Right to the City Alliance, Massachusetts AFL-CIO, MoveOn.org and OccupyBoston.

Tuesday's march and rally come on the heels of <u>a new report</u> by the non-partisan Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy and Citizens for Tax Justice, which reveals that local corporations such as General Electric, State Street, Bank of America and Verizon are amongst the worst tax dodgers in America. General Electric alone managed to draw in a federal tax refund of \$3.7 billion over the last three years, despite posting profits of more than \$19.6 billion. The tax dodging policies of companies like GE have drained millions from the Massachusetts economy – forcing mass layoffs, slashing vital services, and closing schools and community centers.

Details on additional Massachusetts events can be found at www.TaxDayBoston.org, with nationwide actions available at www.99uniting.org. Stay up to date on Twitter at #99TaxDay and #FairShare.

WHO: Hundreds of Massachusetts middle-class and low-income taxpayers

WHAT: Tax Day march and rally to call on corporations and the 1% to pay their

fair share in taxes to fund our communities

WHEN: Rally & March at 5:30pm; other events throughout the day

WHERE: Dewey Square (across from South Station) to Post Office Square – Boston, MA