Following Article 23, Strikes, this amendment inserts into the UAW 4121 Bylaws:

Article 24, Defense Committee

Section 1. There shall be a permanent Defense Committee of the Local Union. The Defense

Committee shall be responsible for undertaking work to directly defend and advance the goals of members outside of the formal management- employee relationship, including:

1. Participating in and recruiting for solidarity actions with other unions.
2. Conducting direct action campaigns in order to strengthen our position as a local.
3. Building links between the Local and on- and off-campus organizations dedicated to advancing equity and fairness.

Section 2. It shall be the responsibility of the Defense Committee to prepare and build

organizational capacity for, on an ongoing basis, industrial actions. Should an industrial action be called, and following the completion of the process laid out in Article 50 of the International Constitution if applicable, the Defense Committee shall coordinate it.

Section 3. The Defense Committee shall consist of twenty-two (22) members. Twenty (20) of the members shall be members At Large, four (4) elected from each of the five (5) jurisdictional regions used by the Local Union to elect At Large Bargaining Team members (see Article 9 Bargaining Team). The remaining two (2) members of the Committee shall be At Large members of the Bargaining Team, selected by the Bargaining Team themselves.

Section 4. The first election of At Large members shall begin within one (1) month of final approval of this Article, and those elected shall serve until the next Triennial Elections for the Local Union. Thereafter, At Large Defense Committee Members shall be elected to three (3) year terms.

1. No person may accept nomination to or hold both an At Large position on the Defense Committee and another elected office within the Local Union, with the exception of Stewards and the Chairs of standing committees.
2. Members may only accept nomination in one jurisdictional region. Members may only accept nomination in a jurisdictional region in which they are enrolled or employed.
3. No person may be elected as an At Large member of the Defense Committee more than twice.
4. Any At Large positions left vacant due to the absence of candidates at the time of election, or member resignations, shall be reopened at the next available election for Stewards or other positions not included as part of the Local Union’s Triennial Elections, or as part of a vacancy election. Members elected to the Defense Committee as part of such an election will serve until the next Triennial Elections.
5. All members in good standing of the Local Union shall be eligible to vote for all At Large Defense Committee Members.
6. Except as described above, nominations and elections shall be executed consistent with Articles 14 and 15 of the Bylaws.
7. Where not otherwise specified, resignations and removals shall follow the standards set out by the UAW Constitution and Local Elections guide.

Section 5. The Defense Committee shall elect a Secretary from amongst its members by simple majority vote. The Secretary or Delegates from the Defense Committee selected by the Secretary shall coordinate with the Executive Board on communicating the work of the Defense Committee and any topics under the Defense Committee’s remit as defined by Section 1.

Section 6. The Defense Committee shall conduct its business via meetings and a mailing list. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote. A simple majority of the Defense Committee

shall constitute a quorum.

Section 7. Meetings and mailing lists shall be open to Local members, who shall have the right to comment on and ask questions about Defense Committee work, and otherwise participate in discussion. Prior to the adjournment of any meeting, the date, time and location of the next meeting shall be established. This will be posted on the Local website within 24 hours following scheduling.

Section 8. Minutes will be taken of all Defense Committee meetings and a summary will be read at membership meetings. All Defense Committee notes shall be available to members upon request.

Section 9. The Defense Committee may choose to establish, by majority vote, subcommittees

for specific actions or purposes within the Defense Committee’s remit. These subcommittees shall provide a report to each Defense Committee meeting, which shall be included in the minutes.

Section 10. The existence of Section 9, and the existence of any subcommittees established under it, is not intended to and shall not be interpreted as precluding work by existing standing committees or ad-hoc bodies that overlap with the remit of the Defense Committee.