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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Philharmonic Management Thwarts Resolution in Latest Talks With Musicians

Musicians remain on strike following 4 hours of negotiations with Fort Wayne Philharmonic management today. The two parties have agreed to a wage package that amounts to a 3.75% average annual raise over Musicians' 2019 pay through 2026, and Musicians have offered additional scheduling flexibility to meet needs proposed by the Philharmonic.

"We believe an agreement has been within reach for weeks" says Players' Association spokesperson Campbell MacDonald. "The Philharmonic continues to block a resolution by demanding a replacement of our industry standard workplace bargaining rights with dictatorial power in the hands of management."

The Fort Wayne Philharmonic Players' Association (American Federation of Musicians Local 58) went on strike on December 8 after performing for 3 months under the terms of an expired contract. Fort Wayne Philharmonic leadership concluded a \$10 million fundraising campaign last year, and currently sits atop an endowment approaching \$30 million. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic is currently placed on the 'International Unfair List' by the American Federation of Musicians. A pending Unfair Labor Practice charge against the Philharmonic alleges Unlawful Interrogation of Employees and Refusal to Bargain in Good Faith.

No additional negotiation meetings have been scheduled.

Please visit the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Players' Association website at <u>www.fwpmusicians.com</u> for more information.