

News Item

McDonald's Secretive Intel Team Spies on 'Fight for \$15' Workers, Internal Documents Show | VICE

By Lorenzo Franceschi-Bicchierai and Lauren Kaori Gurley February 24, 2021

For years, McDonald's has internally labeled activists and employees working with the Fight for \$15 campaign a security threat and has spied on them, Motherboard has learned. McDonald's says that this work is designed to identify protests that "could put crew and customer safety at risk."

The fast food giant's secretive intelligence unit has monitored its own workers' activities with the movement, which seeks to increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour, including by using social media monitoring tools, according to two sources who worked at McDonald's who had direct knowledge of the surveillance and leaked documents that explain the surveillance strategy and tactics. A team of intelligence analysts in the Chicago and London offices keep an eye on the activities of Fight for \$15 labor organizers across the world, figure out which McDonald's workers are active in the movement, and who they are working with to organize strikes, protests, or attempt to form unions.

[...]

Source: McDonald's Secretive Intel Team Spies on 'Fight for \$15' Workers, Internal Documents Show | VICE