

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact:

Jesús Canchola Sánchez, [jsanchez@seiu73.org](mailto:jsanchez@seiu73.org), 312-588-7534

### **Chicago Crossing Guards Do Not Have To Report to Work in Record Cold Temperatures After Union Intervenes**

Chicago – After crossing guards received text messages on Wednesday morning, telling them to report for their morning and afternoon shifts, SEIU Local 73 took action to demand that the City of Chicago follow past practice and relieve crossing guards from reporting for duty in the afternoon.

The order to report for both morning and afternoon shifts was in direct violation of a more than 30 year practice where crossing guards only have to report for the first shift for school closings.

“Crossing guards take protecting the children and community of Chicago very seriously. They are personally invested in the lives of the people they serve and the City must be invested in the safety and well-being of crossing guards. Local 73 members braved the extreme cold conditions this morning and there was no reason for the City of Chicago to force them to work in the afternoon,” said Jeffrey Howard, Executive Vice President.

Howard personally intervened to demand that the City inform guards that they do not have to report for the afternoon shift as previously practiced. Any changes to established practice must be negotiated with the union before implementation.

After direct intervention by the union, the City agreed that crossing guards did not have to report for duty in the afternoon.

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*SEIU Local 73 represents more than 29,000 workers, primarily in public service and publicly funded positions in school districts, municipalities, social service agencies, and many other job classifications in Illinois and Indiana. We are dedicated to improving the lives of workers and their families.*