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**Statement of Local 73 President Dian Palmer about the Local's 2018 election of officers:**

The leaders of SEIU Local 73 are committed to ensuring that our members have a local union that operates with integrity and transparency. In recent weeks, the U.S. Department of Labor has been conducting an intensive review of last year's election of officers at Local 73. We have been cooperating fully in that investigation, responding to each and every claim promptly and completely.

Our leadership team was shocked and disappointed to learn earlier this week that the Department of Labor has identified a problem with the conduct of one local staff person who was elected to the local's executive board in our last election. The conduct that was identified, if true, was a misuse of union data during the election campaign and has no place in our union. We took this problem seriously, confronted the staff person, and immediately asked him to leave both his staff position and his office. He has since resigned.

Local 73's leadership team will continue to cooperate fully with the Department of Labor and will ask for a re-run of our local union's election. Details about the upcoming election will be announced immediately after they are finalized, and we expect that the Department of Labor will supervise the election. We are focused on doing everything we can to ensure that our members have complete confidence in the democratic processes of this union, and it is our intention to work closely with the Department of Labor to ensure that the best interests of our members are served. As we work through this process, we will continue the work of our union to improve the lives of SEIU Local 73 members and all working people.

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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.*