

MEDIA ADVISORY FOR 12PM, Monday, September 14, 2020

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**** UIC STRIKERS TO RALLY TODAY AT 12 NOON ****

Fighting for Safety, COVID Protections, Fair Pay, UIC Workers Strike Across Illinois

Striking Workers: ‘If You Respect Us, Protect Us’

WHAT: Members of SEIU Local 73 who work at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) walked off the job Monday demanding that administrators “respect us, protect us and pay us.”

Workers called “essential” by UIC who are working on the frontlines of the pandemic for poverty wages with unsafe staffing levels and inadequate personal protective equipment launched an unfair labor practice strike this morning at 6AM.

UIC strikers are leading the fight to protect all workers in the name of their colleagues who have become sick and even died because of coronavirus. Throughout the pandemic, UIC workers have gone to extraordinary measures, often risking their own health without the personal protective equipment they need to care for patients and serve students. Workers are striking for increased health and safety measures, higher wages and economic security so on the other side of the health crisis they can thrive. UIC clerical, technical workers and building and maintenance workers -- those who are keeping UIC’s hospital, clinics and campuses running -- are joining together so every worker can care for their family, have their voices heard and rights respected.

A rally with striking UIC nurses, members of the Illinois Nurses Association, is set for noon as workers rise up, stand together and fight for justice.

WHEN: Monday, September 14 @ 12PM

WHERE: Rally with Illinois Nurses Association at 1717 W Taylor St.

WHO: UIC workers, SEIU Local 73 President Dian Palmer, INA President Dorris Carrol, CTU Vice President Stacy Davis Gates, justice allies and more.

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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 and communities.