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UChicago Medicine ULP Strike Enters Day Five

*Management Has Not Returned to Bargaining Despite Requests
from Union, Elected Officials*

Chicago, IL – Building trades and supply chain workers, represented by SEIU Local 73, began an Unfair Labor Practices Strike of UChicago Medicine on Sunday, July 14, to protest management's [bullying](#) and [intimidation tactics](#).

The last bargaining session took place on Friday, July 12. SEIU Local 73 President Dian Palmer has called and emailed UCMC President Tom Jackiewicz to request they return to the bargaining table to settle a fair contract with no response.

Numerous public officials have also called on President Jackiewicz to return to the bargaining table including: U.S. Rep. Chuy Garcia, State Senators Robert Peters and Lakesia Collins, State Reps. Kam Buckner and Curtis Tarver, Aids. Ronnie Mosley, Byron Sigcho Lopez, and Desmon Yancy, and Cook County Commissioner Stanley Moore.

The most recent proposal UCMC management made amounts to \$2.1 million over three years, but fails to address health insurance costs and supply chain quotas. The union's proposal would ensure wages keep up with the cost of living with more affordable insurance and only costs \$2.5 million over three years. UCMC has yet to offer a complete package which would allow us to finalize the contract and end the strike.

"UChicago Medicine is a 4-billion-dollar enterprise that pays its president Tom Jackiewicz \$1.7 million a year. They should be bargaining in good faith, not retaliating against these essential workers who keep UCMC running. It's time for them to return to the bargaining table and settle a fair contract for these essential workers," **said SEIU Local 73 President Dian Palmer.**

Workers have been bargaining since December with UCMC and have been without a contract since February 3. After record inflation and steep increases in health insurance premiums, workers are seeking:

- **Pay that keeps up with the cost of living.** The entry pay for Supply Workers is \$18.36 and the building trades workers are paid between \$13-15 less than Cook County prevailing wage.
- **Affordable health insurance.** Since our last contract, workers are paying thousands more each year for health insurance coverage.
- **Improved benefits.** To attract new hires, they seek to improve vacation and overtime. Turnover for supply workers has been 66% and 20-30% for the building trades jobs.

- **Protections from Quotas in Supply Chain.** Workers feel bullied by management who hold them to a two-minute standard to process packages regardless of complexity.

[Photos available](#). Credit SEIU Local 73.

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SEIU Local 73 represents more than 35,000 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.