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UChicago Medicine Intimidation of Workers Won't Stop ULP Strike

Chicago, IL – SEIU Local 73, the union representing 125 building trades and supply chain workers, has filed another <u>Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) Charge</u> against UChicago Medicine. The latest charge outlines how management refused to allow union members to reserve and use a meeting space in retaliation for union activity, including presenting a strike vote petition.

This charge follows the <u>multiple ULPs filed in June</u>, and workers are standing up to these bullying and intimidation tactics by moving forward with a ULP Strike for a fair contract and to protest UCMC labor law violations starting at 9pm on Sunday, July 14.

"We have offered to meet every day this week to bargain a fair contract but we have yet to hear from President Tom Jackiewicz," **said Jeff Howard, Executive Vice President of SEIU Local 73.** "UChicago Medical Center workers provide top class care for their patients. But when it comes to caring for the workers who keep UCMC running, it seems President Tom Jackiewicz couldn't care less."

<u>SEIU Local 73 has begun running online ads</u> asking the public contact President Jackiewicz and demand he give the workers a fair contract.

UChicago Medicine workers are demanding:

- Wage increases that keep pace with inflation
- Affordable health insurance
- Improved benefits

"It's unacceptable for UCMC not provide affordable health insurance to its workers," **said Howard.** "This is the time for President Jackiewicz to prove to our community that he values the workers as much as he values the patients the workers care for."

"We keep UChicago Med properly running and we deserve affordable health insurance for ourselves and our families," **said Justin Babitsch, Painter.** "Management's final proposal amounts to a pay cut for us. The meager raises they offered are negated by the cost of our health care coverage. For any hospital to treat its workers this way is deplorable."

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.