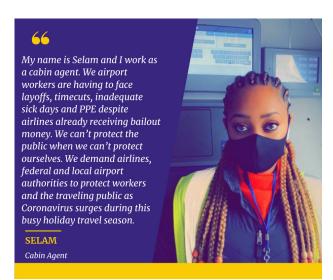
SEA-TAC AIRPORT WORKER UPDATE



2020 HAS BEEN A CHALLENGING YEAR AT THE AIRPORT to say the least. Airport workers were among the first in the nation to face risk of exposure to COVID-19. These workers were on the frontlines when little was known about the virus, and in the months that followed, they were on the frontlines of the economic fallout, too.

In the Spring, when airlines asked Congress for a bailout, hundreds of Sea-Tac SEIU6 members took action to be included in the CARES Act. Congress listened, reserving \$3B for contracted workers like SEIU6 cabin cleaners and wheelchair agents, but the US Treasury failed to put strict rules in place. Some companies that were supposed to use this money to save airport workers' jobs kept laying workers off, or reducing their hours to almost nothing.

Right now, airport workers are fighting for both job security and to stay safe from COVID-19. Union members are coming together to address safety issues, which are critical during this spike in both holiday air travel and COVID infections.

Working with Marilyn Coronell, an organizer who has recently been assigned to the airport, workers have made gains using labor management, including:

- -Making more break rooms & clock-in stations available so coworkers can physically distance
- -Form COVID-19 safety policies to keep workers safe

Call Marilyn to address any COVID-19 safety concerns in your workplace. <u>Your health is important!</u>









Do you have a question for Ambar? Email newsletter@seiu6.org, or message us on Facebook or Instagram @SEIU6.

Ambar Arellano is an SEIU6 Executive Board Member and Janitor working in downtown Seattle.

Dear Ambar,

In my building, the managers never tell us if someone has been infected with COVID-19. We only hear about it afterwards from our co-workers. What can we do about this?

-Trying to Stay Safe in Seattle

Dear Trying to Stay Safe,

I've heard a lot of experiences like this, and it makes us feel unsafe and disrespected.

Managers keep failing to tell us that there's been a COVID-19 exposure, taking away our opportunity to take extra precautions. But you can do something.

If you are a janitor covered under the King County Master Janitorial Contract, the company is required to tell you when someone tests positive at your worksite. This is one of the protections we won in our contract extension in July. If your employer fails to notify you of a COVID case, call our union immediately.

If you are a security officer, airport worker, stadium worker, barber, or allied industry worker, your employer's policies may vary by client or by worksite. But you still deserve a safe workplace. If your company fails to notify you of a positive COVID case, call our union and we will work together to push for stronger policies.

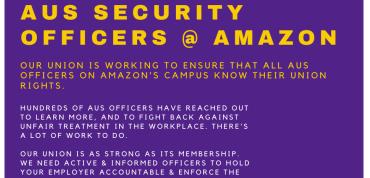
Don't be afraid of speaking out. You are important. You have to look out for your and your family's health. Call our union if you have a question. In addition to the protection of our union, Washington State L & I prohibits employers from retaliating against workers who speak out on COVID safety issues.

As essential workers, we have to take care of ourselves and keep our coworkers safe. Our families depend on us and we take care of them, so think about them.

Unfortunately, we cannot work from home, so we have to do everything to be safe. How? Staying at home if we don't feel well, washing our hands often, wearing our masks, keeping physical distance from each other, and yes-holding our employers accountable for our safety.

Stay safe union family!

Ambar





TO GET INVOLVED, REACH OUT TO YOUR ORGANIZER.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020



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Word from Our Union



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Word from Our Union

2020: A YEAR WE'LL NEVER FORGET

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, ZENIA JAVALERA

Dear Union Family,

This year has been one for the history books. So many people have been devastated by loss during this global pandemic. My heart goes out first and foremost to our union members who lost their lives or lost loved ones. We pray never to repeat this year in terms of the large scale suffering it brought.

As union members, we found ourselves in a critical position: on the frontlines, working, when the rest of the country was urged to stay home. Our airport workers staffed the very ports of entry where COVID-19 first came to our country. Our janitors were called on to deep clean and sanitize every surface imaginable as the virus settled in to Washington State. And our security officers were tasked with protecting properties during a period of rapid change and social turmoil. As essential workers, we had an active role in history in the making.

The silver lining is how we responded. SEIU6 members did not shrink away in fear. We stepped up, using social media, talking to the press, more loudly and in greater numbers than ever before. More of us became politically active. We fought for essential pay, and in doing so, we learned a lot about how some politicians put the wishes of the wealthy ahead of the needs of workers.

And then we voted. In historic numbers, sending a



decisive message: we need leaders who will value our lives. We need racial justice and economic justice now. Believe that we will take this fight to the new administration. We will be loud and proud in 2021, both in our contract fights and in national politics. Our message is clear: Protect Us. Respect Us. Pay Us.

—President Zenia Javalera

ZENIA JAVALERA ELECTED TO SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT OF SEIU6



President Javalera, shown above with her leadership team, including officers, executive board, and trustees, were elected by acclamation on October 10, 2020.

Nearly 1,000 SEIU6 members signed a petition in support of electing Zenia Javalera and her slate of leaders. With no opposition, the slate was elected by acclamation, and will be sworn in at the General Membership meeting on January 9, 2021. The newly elected team is as follows:

President:
Secretary-Treasurer:
Vice President:
Vice President:
Retired Member-at-Large:
Non-Retired Member-at-Large:

Zenia Javalera Jorge Dueñas Elsa Ogbe Lalesa Gurmessa Bruce Berkbigler Carlos Villa Trujillo

SEIU6 Executive Board:

Ambar Arellano Mulat Ayalew Jamila "Mimi" Culcleasure Demetrus Dugar Amir Kalabic

Robert Lund Isela Morales Makda Redae Eleine Senebeto

Trustees: Tulu Dinagde Maria Gamiz Chung Wong