

SEA-TAC AIRPORT WORKER UPDATE

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My name is Selam and I work as a cabin agent. We airport workers are having to face layoffs, timecuts, inadequate sick days and PPE despite airlines already receiving bailout money. We can't protect the public when we can't protect ourselves. We demand airlines, federal and local airport authorities to protect workers and the traveling public as Coronavirus surges during this busy holiday travel season.



SELAM
Cabin Agent

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. Your health is important!

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I have worked in the airport for many years but working during this pandemic has been really scary. I am afraid of getting COVID at work since I have underlying health conditions due to my age. I want companies and the airport in general to prioritize workers' safety during this COVID surge.



THERESA
Airport Worker

MARILYN CORONELL
SEIU6 Union Organizer
Sea-Tac Airport
206-448-7348 ext 324



• Our union office is open by appointment only
• To schedule a virtual meeting with your organizer, please call: (206) 448-7348
• Send us a message on Facebook @SEIU6 Property Services NW
• Call or message us to schedule a virtual building visit

SEIU6
COVID-19
SAFETY
POLICIES

Keep in touch! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @SEIU6 Property Services NW



Ask Ambar
member-to-member advice

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

AUS SECURITY OFFICERS @ AMAZON


OUR UNION IS WORKING TO ENSURE THAT ALL AUS OFFICERS ON AMAZON'S CAMPUS KNOW THEIR UNION RIGHTS.

HUNDREDS OF AUS OFFICERS HAVE REACHED OUT TO LEARN MORE, AND TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST UNFAIR TREATMENT IN THE WORKPLACE. THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO DO.

OUR UNION IS AS STRONG AS ITS MEMBERSHIP. WE NEED ACTIVE & INFORMED OFFICERS TO HOLD YOUR EMPLOYER ACCOUNTABLE & ENFORCE THE CONTRACT.

TO GET INVOLVED, REACH OUT TO YOUR ORGANIZER.

BRYCE WALKER
bwalker@seiu6.org
206-448-7348 ext 321



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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:

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| President: | Zenia Javalera |
| Secretary-Treasurer: | Jorge Dueñas |
| Vice President: | Elsa Ogbe |
| Vice President: | Lalesa Gurmesssa |
| Retired Member-at-Large: | Bruce Berkbigler |
| Non-Retired Member-at-Large: | Carlos Villa Trujillo |

SEIU6 Executive Board:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Ambar Arellano | Robert Lund |
| Mulat Ayalew | Isela Morales |
| Jamila "Mimi" Culcleasure | Makda Redae |
| Demetrus Dugar | Eleine Senebeto |
| Amir Kalabic | |

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Trustees: | Maria Gamiz |
| Tulu Dinagde | Chung Wong |



News at 6

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Word from Our Union

