



SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL NO. 6
PO BOX 3716
SEATTLE WA 98124

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NEWS AT 6

Word from Our Union

www.seiu6.org

f @SEIU6
t @SEIU6

FALL 2022

A TIME TO BUILD

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT, ZENIA JAVALERA

Dear Union Family,



As we head towards the end of 2022, we are reflecting on how far we've come as a local. It's been a big year, with negotiating strong new contracts in security, the airport, and stadiums, as well as launching a campaign to win healthcare for airport workers. In the spirit of Dia de los Muertos, it has also been a time to reflect on the people we have lost along the way. Now more than ever, I feel the weight of responsibility to ensure that the sacrifices and legacies that members like Charles Pannell, Joan Bethel & Bruce Berkbigger made for the labor movement do not end in vain. Especially now as we head into the New Year.

The year 2023 is a critical year for our local because it is time for us to build. The groundwork we lay will prepare us to make important gains in the janitorial campaign in 2024. As a union, we have big shoes to fill and legacies to continue. The baton has been passed to each one of us and we must heed to the call. That means we have to be willing to be more active. Push ourselves to grow in skill and knowledge through programs like the Worker Power School. Be willing to show up for ourselves, our co-workers and our families at rallies, meetings, and events. We need to lean into our differences and leverage them to win big in 2023 and beyond.



WORD FROM OUR UNION

FALL 2022

www.seiu6.org

f @SEIU6
t @SEIU6



SEA-TAC AIRPORT WORKERS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN FOR HEALTHCARE

Sea-Tac passenger service workers ratified strong new contracts over the summer, with increased paid time off and new mechanisms for securing their work schedules. The Sea-Tac minimum wage will increase to \$19.06 on January 1, 2023. The collective action of this predominantly immigrant workforce has made Sea-Tac a leader in wages and working conditions for passenger service workers. But adequate healthcare remains an urgent need.

"We need health insurance—especially older workers like me. I'm 63 years old. I've worked at Sea-Tac since 2004. The insurance our employers offer is unaffordable. In this type of job, you don't know when you might get hurt. We strain our backs because we're constantly lifting heavy baggage or pushing people in wheelchairs. Years ago, I was in the ICU for 9 days. I had to pay out of pocket because I didn't have adequate insurance. Airlines who contract our employers should make sure we're covered. The job is not easy and we worked during the pandemic with no health benefits. The companies and airlines need to do better." —Ador Deguzman, Sea-Tac Airport Worker

Passenger service workers like cabin cleaners, wheelchair agents and baggage handlers are calling on the Port of Seattle to step in. Airports in cities like New York, Newark, Los Angeles, and San Francisco have set rules requiring airport employers offer quality, affordable healthcare to workers. We can do the same in Sea-Tac.

Sign the petition by to tell the Port of Seattle that all airport workers deserve healthcare—no matter their race, country of origin, or who signs their paychecks.

SCAN QR CODE TO FILL OUT THE PETITION



SECURITY UNION RIGHTS FOR SECURITY OFFICERS AT AMAZON



Allied Universal has announced that they will no longer be providing security services for the Amazon corporate worksites beginning mid-December. Securitas, a unionized company, has been awarded the contract and will be taking over the client’s security services.

Security officers working on the Amazon campus fought for and won a union, and negotiated a strong new contract earlier this year. Thanks to these efforts, officers can expect minimal disruption to their work lives as the account transitions to the new employer.

During this transition, SEIU6 is focused on ensuring officers’ union rights and benefits are respected per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

If you are an officer at the Amazon account and are not interested in continuing on with the new company, Securitas, and would like to continue working for AUS, please reach out to HR as soon as possible. Be aware that your wages will be subject to change depending on the location of the new worksite.

Please reach out to our union with any questions, and keep in touch with your coworkers, shop stewards, and organizers to keep us all well-informed through the next few months.

If you have questions, please call the SEIU6 Member Resource Center at 206-448-7348, or send us a message.

SEIU6 WELCOMES POLITICAL DIRECTOR SANDRA TOUSSAINT



Meet Sandra Toussaint, SEIU6’s new Political Director. Sandra comes to SEIU6 after serving as a Lobbyist with AFSCME Council 28, and a Political Organizer with AFT Washington.

Sandra grew up in a political household, joining her mother at community organizing meetings, meetings with legislators, and organizing her classmates to volunteer for candidates in the 37th Legislative District in South Seattle where she grew up.

Sandra brings a long history of collaboration and devotes her work to building power through those she serves, and is excited to join the team at SEIU6.

PROJECT HELP CAN SIMPLIFY WORKERS COMPENSATION



This fall, Project Help came to SEIU6 and led workshops in English and Spanish to catch SEIU6 members up on the basics of filing for workers compensation. Project Help simplifies the workers compensation process to make sure workers who are injured on the job are able to access benefits.

Do you need help navigating the workers compensation process? Contact Project Help at 1-800-255-9725. Information is available in English and Spanish.

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE FOR SEA-TAC PASSENGER SERVICE WORKERS

Effective January 1, 2023, the minimum wage in Sea-Tac will be the highest in the nation. Passenger service workers will see the minimum wage increase to \$19.06, a 8.66% increase from one year prior.

Wages for certain workers in Sea-Tac are determined by Proposition 1, which SEIU6 members fought for and won together with a multiracial, multi-faith coalition in 2013.

Each year, the minimum wage increase is calculated based on the US Department of Labor’s consumer price index.

Sea-Tac airport workers led the way with the first \$15/hour minimum wage in the nation. In connecting with coworkers, building a coalition with labor and community allies, and getting out the vote for Proposition 1, Sea-Tac workers built a foundation for collective action that continues to benefit our airport community.

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT STUDENT DEBT RELIEF

The Biden and Harris administration has implemented student debt relief aimed at helping working families. The student loan debt relief plan includes loan forgiveness of up to \$20,000 for Pell Grant recipients, and \$10,000 for non-Pell Grant recipients. The process is already ongoing. ***Update: This application is open, but the program is paused due to a lawsuit by a student loan servicer.***

To apply you just need to fill out a 1-minute application form.

Here is a link to the official government website: <https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief/application> You’ll have until Dec. 31, 2023, to apply.

Important things to note:

The Biden and Harris administration has re-extended the pause in student loan payments . The pause in payments is scheduled to continue until June 2023.

SEIU6 WOMXN'S COMMITEE MEETING

On Nov 19th, the womxn’s committee will be having a training on sexual harrassment in the workplace. Currently the training will be doffered in Spanish. If interested please contact our front desk.

VEN Y PARTICIPA EN LA CHARLA QUE TENDREMOS SOBRE LA VIOLENCIA DOMESTICA, DAWN (DOMESTIC ABUSE WOMEN'S NETWORK) ES UNA ORGANIZACION QUE EMPODERA Y APOYA A MUJERES SOBREVIVIENTES DE ABUSO DOMESTICO

Por una vida libre de violencia

- DONDE: OFICINA DE LA UNION, 3720 AIRPORT WAY S SEATTLE 98134.
- CUANDO: NOVIEMBRE 19 A LA 1PM
- COMUNICATE CON AMBAR PARA MAS INFORMACION: (206) 448-7348 (206) 619-3429

SEIU6 GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE TACKLES CONTRACT VIOLATIONS



A grievance is a formal complaint against an employer for a violation of a collective bargaining agreement. Union members are entitled to the grievance process. It’s one of our most critical rights. Unlike non-union workers who have little power to fight unjust firings and suspensions, union members can challenge management on unfair decisions without fear of retaliation.

Having a grievance process in place can protect workers from unfair treatment like discrimination, and it gives workers a tool to make positive changes instead of simply quitting. It’s a necessary tool for maintaining a safe and collaborative workplace.

When I handle grievances, I treat each case as important, and take time to speak to the worker directly and in private. It’s critical to handle each case on time, to gather all the relevant information, and to put emotions aside.

WHAT DO UNION MEMBERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE? Timeline is critical. You have a certain amount of days from a disciplinary action in which you can file a grievance. If you think you might need to file a grievance, contact our Member Resource Center right away by calling 206-448-7348.

Not every complaint is a grievance. Decisions on whether to move forward with the grievance procedure will be made based on evidence and the strength of the case.