

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Clara Evans

**Date Submitted:** 08/31/2021 07:56 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S155

**Comments for Public Posting:** On behalf of Dignity Health Southern California Division President Julie Sprengel, I respectfully submit the attached letter.



330 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 400  
Glendale, CA 91203  
dignityhealth.org

**Delivered via email:** [councilmember.martinez@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.martinez@lacity.org)

August 24, 2021

Council President Nury Martinez, Chair  
Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 North Spring Street, Suite 470  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Martinez,

On behalf of Dignity Health's hospitals in Los Angeles - California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) and Northridge Hospital Medical Center (NHMC), I am writing to provide clarity about Dignity Health's discussions with SEIU-UHW about organizing the security staff.

SEIU-UHW is seeking to represent Dignity Health's 565 security guards in California. Under federal labor law (National Labor Relations Act § 9 (159)(b)(3)), and based on industry best practice, unions that already represent employees at an employer facility cannot also represent the security staff at that location. This maintains balance when there are labor negotiations, ensuring employers are not unreasonably burdened by losing core staff and security staff in the event of a work stoppage. For this reason, the National Labor Relations Board will not sanction or certify this type of election.

Security staff play an important role in our ability to provide excellent care. Even as many organizations contract for security, in recent years, Dignity Health has brought these employees in-house and the vast majority receive competitive wages and full benefits, including those who work at our hospitals in Los Angeles. Dignity Health hospitals maintain strong relationships with all of our union partners. Through these partnerships, we are able to advance important workforce and patient care priorities benefiting patients, staff and the community. These positive relationships manifest themselves in the high quality care we provide, especially during this challenging time as we continue to care for COVID-19 patients.

Dignity Health is committed to continuing our collaborative relationship with all of our labor partners. I welcome the opportunity to talk further if you have any questions. Please feel free to reach out to Clara Evans, System Director of Public Policy & California Government Relations at (916) 956.7056 or [Clara.Evans@CommonSpirit.org](mailto:Clara.Evans@CommonSpirit.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julie Sprengel", with a stylized flourish.

Julie Sprengel  
Southern California Division President and CEO

cc: Jaime Garcia, Hospital Association of Southern California  
Clara Evans, CommonSpirit Health