



Health Professionals and Allied Employees Local 5147



Member Update August 29, 2016

MHMC is for sale

It has been confirmed that the owner of an Ambulatory Care Center in Hackensack, NJ has filed a formal application with the NJ Department of Health to buy the hospital. The application is not publicly available so we do not have any specific information to share. However, at negotiations this past week, the current owners confirmed that MHMC will continue to operate as a hospital under a new owner. We will keep you up to date as soon as we learn more and understand how this might impact all of our members.

Judge's decision due following the end of the NRLB trial

The actual trial ended in July and the legal briefs and appeals were finalized last week. We now await the judge's decision which we hope will be issued soon. The judge will determine several issues, including whether hospital management properly made changes to the health insurance and pension payments and if they properly implemented the "internship" program and layoffs. Our position is that they violated the law on each count.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS - UPDATE

The negotiations for a new contract between HPAE and MHMC continue. We have had three sessions so far. We presented the non-economic proposals that were reviewed at our last membership meeting. The next session is set for September 13.

Our next session is scheduled for September 13, when we expect to get management's proposals.

Service Unit Vice-President, Juan Seguinot will continue to be at the hospital, calling your phones and even visiting your homes to hear what you want from the new contract. Please speak with him when he calls or visits so that we can have your input in this contract (you can also call him at the Union Office – 201-262-5005, ext. 107).

UNPAID MEDICAL BILLS

We continue to address unpaid medical bills from 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. Please share any communications regarding these bills with the Union Office as soon as you receive them; the sooner we have them, the more likely we can intervene with collections efforts. We have a letter from the attorney who is handling the lawsuit that we can send to providers and collectors. The attorney's letter asks them to understand that the non-payment of medical bills is not your fault. When you get collection notices, you can scan them and send to clevine@hpae.org or fax them to Carlton at 201-262-4335.