SEIU TEXAS MEMBER HEALTH AND SAFETY DEMANDS

Times of emergency require us all to move beyond business as usual. We must come together as a City and demand that the largest, wealthiest, and most powerful corporations and industries show leadership by looking past their bottom lines to do what’s right for public health and the health and safety of workers.

SEIU Texas janitors are on the front lines of cleaning and disinfecting Houston’s commercial office buildings. Ensuring that our buildings are clean will be critical to a safe and successful reopening of our economy. As essential workers we deserve to be given the tools and training to protect ourselves as we come into work every day to keep our tenants and the public safe. We are calling on our employers to be responsible contractors and meet our health and safety demands. As janitors and the tenants in the buildings we clean return to work we need the following:

1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Keep Janitors and the Public Safe: Cleaning contractors must provide janitors with effective gloves and masks and must agree to comply with CDC and OSHA guidelines for safe workplaces. Janitors must be provided with adequate cleaning supplies and disinfectant, such as EPA-registered disinfectants.

2. Sick Janitors and Janitors Exposed to COVID-19 Should Have the Ability to Stay Home: Cleaning contractors should put in place procedures to allow janitors who are sick or who have been exposed to COVID-19 to stay home without loss of pay.

3. Health and Safety Training: Cleaning contractors should provide janitors with necessary training to ensure janitors are working as safely as possible.

4. Retain Experienced Janitors Who Are in the Best Position to Keep Our Buildings Clean: Cleaning contractors have laid off hundreds of janitors as a result of building closures. Now is the time to bring janitors back responsibly and to make sure that experienced janitors are able to return to work.

Our voices are critical to ensuring that Houston’s office buildings are safe places to work. You may call the Member Resource Center (MRC) at 866-478-0366.

Our dispute is with this building’s cleaning contractor. We have no dispute with any other employer. We are not making a request to cease performing services or making deliveries.