

SEIU 721 Court Unit Members:

We have been in discussions with the Court. The Court wants SEIU to extend all three contracts (Clerks, Supervisors, and Reporters) for a year to 2023.

This global pandemic is not something the Court should be using as a bargaining chip to their advantage. They wish to use this stating they don't know if there will be a recession next year, so they wish to extort a "what if" scenario.

SEIU explained to the Court that this isn't the first time we've had to deal with funding issues, but to come into discussions regarding people's health, safety and lives is disrespectful to the employees. We should deal with the situation at hand and deal with the "What if's" when "what if" happens. I can't speak for what AFSCME has done, but I will tell everyone SEIU represents, we are speaking with our attorneys and the DA's office (who has contracted us) and all are on the same page by saying that the Court cannot offer one union something and not give to the other unions.

AFSCME is the only Union out of the three (3) who signed the extension.

SEIU is working hard every day, night and weekends to ensure the Court does the right thing. This global pandemic changes minute by minute, and the Court is scrabbling trying to figure it out.

SEIU's proposal is that they close the Court keeping the essential operations open, pay employees who are assigned to these Courtrooms on-site time and a half and send non-essential staff home and place them on paid administrative leave (without using their own time).

Lives are at risk and the Court needs to stop playing with people's health, safety, and lives. Show some leadership and do the right thing. Other counties have sent employees home and placed them on administrative leave. That is what we are working for.

I would also like to say **Everyone should complete the Telework application.**

In solidarity,

Earl Thompson
SEIU 721, Worksite Organizer

[Posted with permission from Early Thompson]