

# Centinela Medical Center Workers Request Election to leave SEIU and join NUHW

On Friday, October 2, Centinela workers filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board requesting that an election be conducted to vote to get out of SEIU and to join the National Union of Healthcare Workers . NUHW was formed after SEIU DC took over our union against the members' wishes.

SEIU has failed the members at Centinela in the recent contract settlement.

## Here's What Happened:

**In December 2008** (one month prior to SEIU's takeover of our union), NUHW leaders won a standard setting contract recommendation with Arbitrator Collins for the 2007-2009 contract. Centinela workers voted overwhelming to accept that settlement "recommendation". However, management would not accept it. Therefore, the "recommendation" had to go to a formal arbitration, but with the SAME arbitrator who did the initial "recommendation".

**In March**, two months after SEIU took over our union, SEIU tried to get the rank and file bargaining team to accept a deal they worked out with the employer for LESS than the arbitrator's "recommendation." The rank and file bargaining fought back and forced SEIU to go to arbitration. SEIU then removed two of the members from the bargaining team who had the history with the arbitrator and the experience in the arbitration proceeding.

**In September, the arbitrator's final ruling came out. And guess what? It is almost identical to what SEIU tried to get the team to accept back in March.**

**"Was the whole thing rigged? I don't know. All I know is that what we ended up with was what SEIU and the boss worked out in March. And that SEIU has refused to give us the official ruling from the arbitrator"**

**Moises Lopez**  
Engineer  
Centinela Medical Center

**We asked SEIU to please give us a copy of the arbitrator's decision.** But they said they wouldn't give us copies and all we got was a one page summary. In addition, SEIU refused to give us the wage scales that the arbitrator ruled. It was MANAGEMENT that sent out notices telling us that the arbitrator ruled in favor of their wage scales. Can you believe, that our own Union won't tell us, but we have to hear from our MANAGEMENT? What's the deal with that?

**Why won't SEIU give us copies of the actual decision.**

## What *is* SEIU hiding?

**CALL SEIU AT (323) 734-8399 and ask them for a FULL COMPLETE AND SIGNED copy of the arbitrator's award.**

