

A Chronology of Our Fight to Raise Up Riverside County

Our tenacity and energy must be mightier than the County's audacity to cheat and violate labor laws. It's important that you keep the momentum of the last 8 weeks until we win a fair contract that lifts up frontline workers and our communities.

July 19



After one-year of negotiations, Riverside County submitted their sickening "last best" and final offer.

Aug 1-4

We filed 4 unfair practice charges over the County's bad faith bargaining practices, bringing to the total to 15 charges.* Prior to the County prematurely submitting its "last best" and final offer, the County used 4 different negotiators during bargaining, never gave reasons for its rejection of our proposals, and even unlawfully demanded we bargain over e-mail. In addition, the County withdrew a key Workplace Safety Proposal without explanation. The County clearly showed they never had a genuine intention to hammer out a deal with our bargaining team.

Aug 10-23



Anger over the whopping number of unfair practice charges reaches an all-time high at worksites throughout the County. Riverside County SEIU Local 721 members begin holding ULP pickets at multiple worksites, including Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Hemet DPSS, La Sierra DPSS, Banning DPSS, and other facilities.

Aug 23-25

Additional unfair practice charges are filed against the County over their bad faith bargaining. The County fails to respond to questions raised at the last bargaining session. In addition, the County once again fails to respond to our multiple information requests, and attempts to interfere with workers' union activities and intimidate members. The number of unfair practice charges balloons to 19.

Aug 29



We storm the County Board of Supervisors and disrupt the meeting to inform the County of our intent to go on strike over the 19 unfair practice charges filed. **Hundreds of SEIU 721 Local 721 members and community allies momentarily occupy the lobby of the building and hold a powerful rally.**

Aug 30

With a looming ULP strike on the horizon, **Riverside County prematurely declares an impasse at the bargaining table with both SEIU Local 721 and LIUNA.**



Sep 12



The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved an agreement to give county officials leeway to spend up to \$7 million on replacement workers, or better known as scabs, in case County workers went on strike again. The \$7 million included the \$1.5 million it spent on scabs during the ULP strike.

Sep 8

After the historic strike garnering the support of California's top three gubernatorial candidates, thousands of workers across Riverside County returned to work wearing "Stronger Than Ever" stickers. **Nobody was disciplined for his or her participation in the strike.**

Sep 7



On the heels of a massive Day turnout – **thousands more marched from the Riverside Convention Center to fill the County Administration Center on Day 2 of the strike.** The raucous one-mile march to the County Administration Building through the heart of Downtown Riverside ended with a takeover of the County Administration Building and a rally, including the participation of State Treasurer and gubernatorial candidate John Chiang.

Sep 6

Over 1,000 thousand County workers go on the ULP strike and begin a picket line at 6:30AM at the Riverside County Regional Medical Center. The picket picks up steam throughout the morning as workers from facilities across the County begin descending on the Hospital, including gubernatorial candidate and former L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Gavin Newsom, California Lt. Governor and gubernatorial candidate, addresses the thousands of County workers at the post-picket activities at the Riverside Convention Center as they gear up for Day 2 of the strike.

Sep 5



Discontent with PERB's decision, County makes the claim in the Riverside County Superior court that the ULP strike is illegal. **The Court rules late that evening that the overwhelming majority of SEIU Local 721 members had the legally protected right to participate in the ULP Strike.**

Sep 1

Riverside County tries to stymie worker plans of going on the ULP strike by going to Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). **PERB rules in favor of frontline workers** and reaffirmed that the overwhelming majority of SEIU Local 721 members had the legally protected right to participate in the ULP strike.

LOCAL 721
SEIU

Sep 13

Immediately after the strike, our Bargaining Team reached out to the County to offer negotiations around the clock, not only did they refuse to return to the table, they also denied our request for mediation through a neutral party to help us hammer out a fair agreement.



Sep 15-19

Four more additional unfair practice charges are filed against the County over **the pepper spray threats, and for surveillance and restriction of union access rights.**



Sep 26-28

Three more additional unfair practice charges are filed against the County for the county's misleading communications to employees about the strike, interfering with union activities, and for the premature declaration of an impasse. **The total number of charges stands at 26 in the span 10 months.**



Hundreds of SEIU Local 721 members descend on the neighborhoods of Supervisor Chuck Washington and John Tavaglione to canvass the area and inform the Supervisors' neighbors about the County's revenue waste and unfair labor practices.



Oct 17



Oct 12

SEIU Local 721 members across worksites throughout the County begin leading Unity Breaks, and **jam the office of Supervisor Chuck Washington with phone calls demanding the County drops Zappia Law Firm.**



Oct 5

The 27th unfair practice charge is filed against the County for their discriminatory prohibition of SEIU Local 721 posters in members' cubicles.



SEIU Local 721 members launch their efforts to speak at multiple City Council meetings to make the call for local elected officials to stand with workers and pressure the Board of Supervisors. **The speaking engagements take SEIU Local 721 members to the cities of Indio, Hemet, Palm Springs, Temecula, and the Riverside through the month.**

Oct 29

Hundreds of SEIU Local 721 members and their families, and community allies hold a **Halloween themed action right outside of Supervisor's Chuck Washington's house.** The bone-chilling message that it's time for him to show some leadership and smash the anti-worker agenda was delivered throughout the neighborhood.