



**ORGANIZATION OF STAFF ANALYSTS**

October 25, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Now you get to choose.

On Wednesday, October 24th, the Office of Collective Bargaining (OCB) mailed to your home address instructions for casting your online or phone ballot for OSA or DC37.

OSA is listed second on the ballot because of a coin toss, but we were first in trying to help you. It was OSA field representatives who visited Patient Representatives several years ago and noticed that you were very much like the other titles we represent at the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation.

Because of that knowledge (and the desire for union representation by Patient Representatives), it was OSA labor lawyers who filed a case on your behalf with OCB seeking to bring you into our union.

We were correct in our judgment that you were eligible for and deserved union representation. OCB ruled in your favor earlier this year. You went from Rule 11 (hire-at-will, fire-at-will) to Rule 12 (non-competitive civil servants with due process rights).

You are now eligible to belong to a union.

Then, and only then, organizers from DC37 arrived to tell you they were the better union. We disagree.

DC37 is a good union – more accurately, more than fifty local unions that share a Welfare Fund, a common headquarters and a long history together under the banner of AFSCME.

It is not a better union.

It is better for a union to always fight to help unorganized workers improve their conditions. Job security is not a small thing. Fair treatment and respect for work done is really important to us all. Unions should never rest on the laurels of their past history, but should always be willing to help more.

OSA is a better union for Patient Representatives. We are better because our benefits closely match your existing management benefits and those benefits (dental, optical, major medical, etc.) are better for employees at our income levels.

We are better because we are more accurate in our promises. We have never promised you “free” benefits in return for your vote. Instead, we promised that, working together, we could make things a little better for Patient Representatives. The improvement in your civil service status due to the OCB decision did make your situation a little better and there will be more to come.

We are better because we care about you, not just at election time, but before and after as well.

Patient Representatives regularly intercede on behalf of patients even when the hospital’s large bureaucracy might prefer silence. You make our hospitals nicer.

Your work is not easy, rather a David and Goliath situation – with you as David. This is why we felt you would fit perfectly in OSA. We want you because we like who you are and we want your strength on our side.

In turn, we are like you and want to join with you to try to make things better and fairer for us all and also for the public we serve.

Please vote. We look forward to welcoming you into our ranks.

In solidarity,

Bob Croghan, Chair  
212-686-1229

Iris Bailey, Lead Organizer  
(646) 298-6335

P.S. You will need the Access Code mailed to you by OCB to cast your vote. If you don’t receive the mailing from OCB with your Access Code by October 31st, please be sure to call OCB at (212) 306-7160 to request a new Access Code.