

# KAISER OPTICAL BARGAINING UPDATE

## OCTOBER 1, 2019

Yesterday we gave Kaiser the last of our proposals on non-economic issues and our first proposal covering economic issues, related to paid leaves. We let them know to expect to see the rest of our economic proposals at our next session. We made it clear that we expect the same economic benefits that Kaiser just extended to the Coalition Unions, such as \$5 medical co-pays and restoration of the pension for all employees.



Kaiser had responses to some of our prior proposals, mostly rejecting them. They had no new proposals for us. At the end of the day, they asked if we wanted to agree to extend the contract for one month, since it expired at midnight. We politely declined because an extension would only benefit the employer. By law, even without a contract, the current wages, hours, and working conditions remain status quo. The only exceptions are that, without a contract, we can strike. As a trade off for this, we cannot compel arbitration on grievances filed during the period without a contract.

Kaiser's chief negotiator said they had hoped for an extension as a sign of good faith. One of us asked where Kaisers good faith was when they cancelled two previous bargaining sessions and left another before noon.

Given its poor treatment of our other NUHW bargaining units, it's unlikely that Kaiser will give us a fair contract without a fight. This is why our stewards and bargaining committee are urging everyone to sign the strike authorization petition. Let's show Kaiser we are united for a fair contract.

### NEXT BARGAINING SESSIONS

**October 10, 16 and 30**

All members are welcome to attend.

Contact a member of the bargaining committee or your NUHW organizer for more information.

Remember to **WEAR RED** on Wednesdays to show your support for our bargaining committee!

### OPTICAL BARGAINING COMMITTEE

Sonia Askew, South Sacramento; Shahidah Bell, Optical Lab, Surface; Tony Baltrons, Optical Lab, Bench; Christian Del Rosario, Optical Lab, Bench; Toni Gianti, Antioch Sand Creek; Demeka Hudson, Fremont; Sonia Minor, Martinez; Otto Pimentel, Modesto; Elvia Plata, Fresno; Laura Stewart, Santa Clara; Jeff Parker, Optical Lab, Stock; Gloria Villaseñor, Union City; Delisa Willis, Walnut Creek

### NUHW ORGANIZERS

**NUHW** NATIONAL UNION OF  
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