

# NATIONAL UNION OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS

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# Collective Bargaining Agreement with Kindred Hospital San Francisco Bay Area

Registered Nurses

**September 28, 2023 – March 31, 2026** 

Clinical Laboratory Scientists, X-ray Technologists, Respiratory Care Practitioners, Respiratory Therapists, Operating Room Technicians, Phlebotomists, Material Management Clerks

September 28, 2023 – March 31, 2026

# **WEINGARTEN RIGHTS/STATEMENT**

# **Additional Representation Rights:**

The following holding of the U.S. Supreme Court in NLRB v. Weingarten, Inc., shall apply to investigatory interviews conducted by the employer that an employee, upon his/her request, is entitled to have a Union representative present during an investigatory interview in which the employee is required to participate where the employee reasonably believes that such investigation will result in disciplinary action. The right to the presence of a Union representative (Union Organizer or Union Steward) is conditioned upon a requirement that the Union representative be available for participation in such investigatory interview within twenty-four hours, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays, of the employee's request for his or her presence.

# **Weingarten Rules/Statement:**

"I request to have a Union representative present on my behalf during the meeting because I believe it may lead to disciplinary action being taken against me. If I am denied my right to have a Union representative present, I will refuse to answer accusatory questions and any I believe may lead to discipline."

**Rule 1:** The employee must make a clear request for Union representation before or during the interview. The employee cannot be punished for making this request.

**Rule 2:** After the employee makes the request, the employer must choose from among three options:

- 1. Grant the request and delay questioning until Union representation arrives and has a chance to consult privately with the employee;
- 2. Deny the request and end the interview immediately;
- 3. Give the employee a choice of having the interview without representation or ending the interview.

**Rule 3:** If the employer denies the request for Union representation and continues to ask questions, the employer commits an unfair labor practice and the employee has the right to refuse to answer. The employer may not discipline the employee for such refusal.

This page is for informational purposes only and is not part of the collective bargaining agreement.

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# **PREAMBLE**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between KINDRED HOSPITAL-SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA 2800 Benedict Drive, San Leandro, California, hereinafter called the "Employer", the "Facility" or the "Hospital" and the NATIONAL UNION OF HEATLHCARE WORKERS, hereinafter called the "Union" or the "NUHW."

# **SECTION 1 – RECOGNITION**

# 1.1 COVERED EMPLOYEES

The Employer recognizes the Union as the exclusive bargaining agent for employees covered by this Agreement. This Agreement covers employees of the Employer who work at Kindred Hospital San Francisco Bay Area located at 2800 Benedict Drive, San Leandro, California 94577 (the "Facility") in two separate bargaining units and in one of the following job classifications: (1) All Regular Full time and Regular Part time RNs (also including Wound Care RNs) and (2) All Regular Full time and Regular Part time Clinical Laboratory Scientists, Radiologic Technologists, Respiratory Care Practitioners, Respiratory Therapists, Operating Room Technicians, Phlebotomists, Material Management Clerks.

This Agreement does not apply to stationary engineers, confidential and managerial employees, guards, supervisors, professional employees, other than those set forth above, nor to any other employees who are not specifically covered by this Agreement.

# 1.2 EFFICIENT OPERATIONS AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP

Both parties recognize that the efficient and uninterrupted operation of the Facility is to their mutual advantage and in the interest of the Facility's patients. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish and maintain a harmonious and constructive relationship between the parties in order to achieve those results. The Employer and the Union agree that all Kindred employees, physicians and managers will treat each other, regardless of position, with dignity, respect, courtesy and trust. The forgoing principles shall also apply in providing service to patients and visitors.

1.3

# a. Subcontracting

If the Employer intends to subcontract any work involving the tasks presently performed by employees covered by this Agreement, it shall give ninety (90) days prior written notifica-tion to the Union. This obligation does not apply to the use of registries. The Employer and the Union will meet after notice is provided in an attempt to reach mutual agreement on issues concerning such contracting. If the parties are unable to reach agreement by the end of the one hundred twenty (120) day period, the No Strike, No Lockout provision of this Agreement will be suspended and the Union may serve ten (10) days written notice of its intent to strike.

# b. Notice of Sale or Lease

In the event this Facility is sold, assigned, leased, or transferred, the Hospital will notify the Union, in writing or via electronic mail, at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to such action. Such notice shall include the name and address of the prospective new owners, assignee, lessee, or transferee. The Hospital will meet with representatives of the Union to bargain over the effects of the transaction on bargaining unit employees and such bargaining shall begin no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the completion of any transaction.

# SECTION 2 – HIRING AND PROBATIONARY PERIOD

# 2.1 HIRING EMPLOYEES

Kindred may hire employees from any source and shall be the sole judge of the fitness of any applicant for the job.

# 2.2 PROBATIONARY PERIOD

A probationary period of ninety (90) days from the date of first hiring shall be established for newly hired full-time and part-time employees. During the probationary period the employee may be discharged for any reason, which in the opinion of Kindred is just and sufficient, and there shall be no recourse to Section 31, Grievance and Arbitration Procedure. In situations where job performance, attendance, or conduct of the probationary employee is below expectations, the Employer may extend the probationary period to work with the employee at the Employer's discretion, with notice to the Union. New employees who work less than twenty (20) hours per week shall serve a probationary period of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days. Any extension of the probationary period shall not affect benefit eligibilities.

# 2.3 NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

The Union shall be given thirty (30) minutes to provide a new member orientation during the Employer's normal orientation program for new hires in the bargaining unit. The Employer shall provide to the Union a list of new employees in advance of the scheduled orientation program. This list shall include first and last name, job classification, department, shift, cell phone number, and email.

# SECTION 3 – UNION MEMBERSHIP

# 3.1 BECOMING A MEMBER OR PAYING A FEE

Not later than the thirty-first (31st) day following the beginning of employment, or the effective date of this Agreement, or the execution of this Agreement, whichever is later, every employee subject to the terms of this Agreement shall, as a condition of employment, become and remain a member of the Union paying the periodic dues and initiation fees uniformly required, or, in the alternative, shall, as a condition of

employment, pay a fee in the amount equal to the periodic dues and initiation fees uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership, or, if the employee objects to the payment of that agency fee, such employee shall as a condition of employment pay that portion of the agency fee that is related to the Union's representation costs. The Union shall comply with its legal obligation under *Communications Workers v. Beck* to inform every new employee in writing that he or she has the right to be a nonmember, subject only to the duty to pay initiation fees and dues, and that nonmembers have the right to be given sufficient information to enable the employee to intelligently decide whether to object and to be apprised of any internal Union procedures for filing objections.

# 3.2 LISTS OF EMPLOYEES

No later than the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day of the month, the Employer will provide to the Union in electronic form a list of new hires, terminations and transfers into or out of the bargaining unit. The list will include the employee's full name, date of hire, current hire date (seniority date), employee ID number, home address, telephone number, department, job title, wage rate (including any wage rate changes for transfers), status (e.g. regular full-time, regular part-time, per diem or temporary), and date of hire, termination (including reason for termination such as resignation, retirement, discharge, layoff) or transfer, as applicable.

Hard copies of the above data will be provided only upon separate request, no more than twice a calendar year.

# 3.3 AN EMPLOYEE'S FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS SECTION

Employees who are required herein, to maintain membership or make payments described in Section 3.1 above, and fail to do so and employees who are required herein to join the Union and fail to do so shall, upon written notice to the Facility and upon examination of documentary proof that an employee failed to comply with 3.1 as above described, be terminated, unless the Facility has reasonable grounds for believing that the employee was denied the ability to comply with 3.1 or terminated for reasons other than failure to comply with 3.1 as defined above.

# 3.4 NOTICE TO EMPLOYEE

At the time of employment, a new employee who will be subject to this Agreement shall be informed of the Agreement and shall read or have paraphrased the provisions of this Section 3 and Section 4 following.

# SECTION 4 – VOLUNTARY WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT OF WAGES

# 4.1 DUES AND COPE

During the term of the Agreement, the Facility will honor written assignments of wages to the Union for payment of Union initiation fee and dues, and honor written assignment of wages to the Union's Committee on Political Education (COPE) fund, provided such

assignments are submitted in a form agreed to by the Facility and the Union. The Union will pay whatever startup costs are applicable for the implementation of the program.

4.2 The Facility will promptly remit the monies deducted pursuant to such assignments with a written statement of the names of the employees for whom deductions were made. Such data will be provided in the form of the bank or service organization's computer run of deductions.

# 4.3 DUES DEDUCTIONS

Normally, the deduction of such assigned wages will be made on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) pay period of each month for the then current Union membership fees. However, the Union and the Facility may make other arrangements by mutual consent.

# 4.4 INDEMNIFICATION

The Union will hold harmless the Facility against any claim or obligation which may be made by any person by reason of the deduction of Union membership fees, including the cost of defending against any such claim or obligation. The Union will have no monetary claim against the Facility by reason of failure to perform under this Section.

# **SECTION 5 – WAGES**

# 5.1 SCHEDULE OF WAGES

The minimum straight-time hourly rates of pay shall be shown in Appendix A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

# 5.2 PAYDAY

If the Facility's payday is on a Friday, the Facility will make reasonable efforts to pay employees working after 6:00 p.m. by the conclusion if their last shift which begins on Thursday. If the Facility's payday falls on an employee's day off, the Facility will make reasonable efforts to have the employee's paycheck available by the end if the shift on the previous work day. If the Facility uses symbols on payroll checks, such symbols shall be explained to an employee on request. In addition, the Facility will make reasonable efforts to issue paychecks no later than 3:30 p.m. on a payday. An employee shall be notified of a change in his or her regular rate of pay.

# 5.3 MEALS

All employees must clock in and out for meal periods.

# 5.4 SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL

A shift differential shall be granted to all qualified employees working the night shifts. See Appendix B for rates.

# 5.5 SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for shift differential the employee must work a minimum of four (4) hours during the shift differential period. Hours worked before or after the shift differential period will be paid at the employee's straight-time rate.

The shift differential will be included in the calculation of the overtime rate for hours worked that are subject to payment of shift differential. However, this shift differential shall not be included in the rate of pay for paid time off.

# **SECTION 6 – HOURS OF WORK**

# 6.1 <u>EMPLOYEE CATE</u>GORIES

# a. Full-Time

A full-time employee is one who is regularly scheduled to work thirty (30) or more hours per week.

# b. Part-Time

A part-time employee is one who is regularly scheduled to work twenty-four (24) or more hours per week.

# c. Per Diem

A per diem employee is an employee who works a variable number of hours or shifts as required by the Employer's work needs and the employee's availability and is employed through an in-house pool or in-house registry. To maintain their status, per diem employees must be available to work one (1) shift per week and one (1) major holiday per year (Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve). Per diem employees who work two (2) or more shifts (each shift being a minimum of eight hours) in a pay period shall receive a differential for all hours worked during that pay period. Per Diem employees who work fewer than two (2) shifts (each shift being a minimum of eight hours) during a pay period will not receive a differential for that pay period. See Appendix B for rates.

# d. Temporary Employee

Temporary employees are those employees who are hired for a specific period of time or on an "on call" basis.

# e. Categories of Employees Employed

The Facility shall be the sole judge of which categories of employee should be hired and how many employees in each category should be hired.

# 6.2 CHANGE OF CATEGORY

a. Part-time or per diem employees who for a period in excess of nine (9) consecutive pay periods, work thirty (30) or more hours per week, will, upon the request of the employee, be reclassified as a regular full-time employee.

# 6.3 HOURS OF WORK

# a. Work Week

The workweek is defined as the seven (7) day period commencing at 6:00a.m. on Sunday and ending at 5:59a.m. on the following Sunday. Hours worked during a workweek are calculated in accordance with this definition.

# b. Forty (40) Hours/Five (5) Days a Week or Thirty-Six (36) Hours/Three (3) Days a Week

The workweek for full time employees shall be either:

- i. forty (40) hours, five (5) days per week; or
- ii. thirty-six (36) hours, three (3) days per week.

The Hospital retains the right to determine all staffing levels and all staffing assignments, both for specific individuals and for groups of employees. The regular work for most full-time employees shall be eight (8) hours, or twelve (12) hour shifts. The Hospital may implement new schedules for job position(s), job classifications, shifts or otherwise or scheduling procedures with thirty (30) days' notice to the Union. The Hospital shall promptly negotiate the effect(s) of such changes with the Union, upon request, but such effects bargaining shall not delay the implementation of the new schedules or scheduling procedures beyond forty-five (45) days of the Hospital's notice.

# 6.4 OVERTIME

- a. Overtime for Employees Scheduled to Work Eight (8) Hour Shifts
  - i. When an employee is required to work in excess of eight (8) hours in any one (1) work day, the employee shall be paid overtime at the rate of time and one-half (11/2) the regular rate of pay for the hours worked over eight (8).
  - ii. When an employee is required to work in excess of forty (40) hours in workweek, the employee shall be paid over- time at the rate of time and one-half (11/2) the regular rate of pay for the hours worked over forty (40).
  - iii. When an employee is required to work in excess of twelve (12) hours in any one (1) workday, the employee shall be paid double (2x) times the regular rate of pay for the hours worked over twelve (12).

# b. Overtime for Employees Scheduled to Work Twelve (12) Hour Shifts

- i. When an employee is required to work in excess of twelve (12) hours in any one (1) workday, the employee shall be paid overtime at the rate of double (2x) times the regular rate of pay for the hours worked over twelve (12).
- ii. An employee who works in excess of forty (40) hours in a workweek shall be compensated at one and one-half (11/2) times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked over forty (40) hours in the workweek.
- iii. Extra Shift on Scheduled Day Off. The Employer will provide bargaining unit employees working twelve (12) hour shifts and working an extra shift on a day off, time and one-half (1-1/2) for the first eight (8) hours and double time (2x) for all remaining hours.
- iv. <u>Overtime Computation</u>. Except for rest periods, only hours actually worked shall be considered hours worked for the purpose of computing overtime.

# 6.5 SCHEDULING

a. Wherever practical and possible in the light of the Employer's requirements, the Facility will endeavor to schedule two (2) consecutive days off per week. No employee shall be required to work two (2) full shifts within a period of twenty-four (24) hours; provided, however, that if in an emergency the Employer cannot secure the consent of sufficient employees to work as is necessary within a unit or department, the Facility may require such work by assignment in the inverse order of seniority.

# b. Posting of Schedule

The Facility will post work schedules at least two (2) weeks in advance and notify promptly an employee whose posted work schedule is to be changed.

# c. Weekend Rotation

The Employer will exercise its best efforts to retain current scheduling practices. The parties agree that changing schedules and shifts may be necessary to provide patient care and the Hospital retains the right, if patient care needs so require, to make schedule adjustments as required.

# 6.6 REPORTING PAY

An employee required by the Employer to report to work, and who does report, will be utilized and paid for half (1/2) the usual or scheduled day's work, but in no event fewer than two (2) hours nor more than four (4) hours, at the employee's regular rate of pay. Any payment for work not performed shall not be treated as hours worked for any purpose. If the employee is offered work and elects to go home, then the employee shall not receive any reporting pay.

# 6.7 REST PERIODS

Each employee shall be granted a rest period of fifteen (15) minutes during each half (1/2) shift without deduction in pay.

# 6.8 FLOATING

- a. The Hospital will only float employees qualified to perform assigned duties. If an employee believes he/she may not be qualified, the employee shall immediately notify a supervisor and ask for an assessment of qualification. The supervisor may alter the assignment if necessary.
- b. The Hospital maintains discretion to determine when a float is necessary. When it is necessary to float, it shall be done by reverse seniority on a rotating basis among all bargaining unit employees, subject to the Hospital's judgment of qualifications or unless patient care needs dictate otherwise.
- c. The Hospital shall float registry, traveler, and temporary employees prior to any bargaining unit employee, provided the employee is qualified and unless patient care needs dictate otherwise when the Hospital determines a float is necessary.
- d. No employee shall be subject to reprisal for bringing forward staffing concerns in good faith to the Employer, the LMCC, or the PCC.

# 6.9 TEMPORARY WORK ASSIGNMENT OUTSIDE OF UNIT

A unit employee may be temporarily assigned to work in a classification not covered by this Agreement provided that the employee voluntarily agrees in writing to the assignment. While so employed, the unit employee will not be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Absent the Union's written consent, any such temporary assignment shall not exceed sixty (60) days. When the temporary assignment ends, the unit employee shall return to his or her former classification and position without any loss of seniority.

# 6.10 ASSIGNMENT OF NIGHT SHIFT UNIT SECRETARIES

The Employer may, in its sole discretion, place a registered nurse in the position of unit secretary during the night shift. Any such placement by the Employer shall not be subject to the grievance and arbitration process.

# SECTION 7 – EMPLOYMENT & INCOME SECURITY

7.1 The Hospital will continue to make every effort to avoid displacing employees (e.g., reduction in force, reduction in hours, daily cancellations, job elimination on a temporary, indefinite or permanent basis, etc.) and in so far as it is able, it will provide employment and income security to bargaining unit employees.

# 7.2 CANCELLATIONS/FLEXING

# a. Every Effort to Avoid Cancellations/Flexing

Prior to making hours reductions on a daily or hourly basis, the Hospital shall make efforts to avoid daily cancellations/flexing. After making such efforts, the Hospital may make hours reductions on a daily or hourly basis for operational reasons (for example, a reduction in census or acuity), subject to any applicable terms in this Agreement. Such reductions can be made even after the schedule has been posted or during a shift. Cancellation/flexing must be approved by a supervisor, department manager or designee. Eligible employees who are cancelled/flexed may take the day off without pay or use PTO (where applicable), at the employee's discretion.

# b. Order of Cancellation/Flexing

Subject to patient care staffing needs, including adequate qualifications of employees, when it is necessary and unavoidable to cancel or flex an employee, the Hospital shall cancel/flex employees in the following order:

- i. The Hospital agrees to first seek volunteers, for all of the following categories before imposing mandatory cancellation/flexing. Volunteers may be accepted at any point in the process. Where the number of volunteers exceeds the number of employees to be cancelled/flexed, the Employer shall select volunteers, by seniority by shift, job position, and unit, in the following order:
  - (a) full-time employees;
  - (b) part-time employees;
  - (c) per diem employees;
  - (d) temporary employees, agency or registry workers.
- ii. Prior to canceling full-time and part-time employees on their regular schedule for low census, the Hospital will first cancel:
  - (a) agency or registry workers;
  - (b) temporary employees;
  - (c) part-time then full-time employees working overtime or on extra shifts; and
  - (d) per diem employees.

# iii. The Hospital will then cancel:

- (a) part-time employees; and
- (b) full-time employees, based on rotating seniority by shift, job position, and unit, if appropriate.

Within two (2) weeks of any request by the Union, the Hospital will provide the Union with a complete and accurate information regarding cancelations in any unit or department and a current seniority list for any unit or department. An employee with more than twenty (20) years of seniority shall not be cancelled, unless she/he is the least senior employee available.

An employee with more than ten (10) but less than twenty (20) years of seniority shall not be cancelled more than one (1) time per six-month period (January through June and July through December), unless she/he is the least senior employee available.

c. Once cancelled/flexed, an employee is considered off the schedule for that shift (or portion thereof), and shall not be required to maintain contact with the Hospital or be available to work, unless the employee has agreed to accept and be compensated for On-Call status, consistent with this Agreement, for the shift or portion thereof.

# d. Cancellation/Flexing Notice

The Hospital shall notify affected employees as soon as the need for cancellation/flexing is known to the Hospital. The Hospital shall call-off/flex employees at least two (2) hours prior to the commencement of their scheduled shift, if known. If the employee is not notified two (2) hours before the shift, the Employer shall pay Reporting Pay when the employee reports to work. Reporting Pay provisions of this Agreement shall apply.

# e. Pattern or Practice Concerning Scheduling/Assignments

The parties understand that executing the mandates of this Article can be difficult at times in a healthcare setting. Accordingly, the parties agree that, generally, the remedy for violations of the rotation for cancellations by rotating seniority shall be that the employee who is incorrectly cancelled shall have her/his next turn in the rotation skipped. However, one exception is when an employee is incorrectly cancelled and should therefore have her/his next turn skipped but is instead cancelled on this next turn, in which case the Union may seek an economic remedy. In determining an economic remedy for violations of contractual provisions regarding cancellations/flexing, the arbitrator may consider mitigating circumstances.

# **SECTION 8 – SENIORITY**

# 8.1 DEFINITION

Unless otherwise specified, seniority shall commence on the most recent date of hire into the bargaining unit by the Employer as a regular full-time employee and shall mean total service with the Facility thereafter, subject to termination of seniority under Section 8.5. Seniority shall have no application during the first ninety (90) days of continuous employment. Part-time and Per diem employees shall have seniority among themselves.

# 8.2 DISPLACEMENT AND RECALL

a. Seniority shall be by department and shall apply in cases of displacement or re-call, except in cases where specialized work or skill or trained personnel is required.

- b. The Facility will make reasonable efforts to inform employees of displacements as soon as practical prior to the displacement.
- c. In the event of a permanent displacement (layoff) affecting at one time, ten (10) or more employees, the Employer agrees to bargain with the Union over the amount, if any, of severance pay to be paid to the displaced employees. The Union must request bargaining in writing within ten (10) days of notification that a permanent displacement will occur or within ten (10) days after the permanent displacement occurs.

# 8.3 PERMANENT VACANCIES

All permanent vacancies in regular full-time and part-time classifications covered by this Agreement shall be posted on the Company's website for seven (7) days before they are filled.

Current employees who wish to be considered for such vacancies shall submit a written request to the Employer's on-site Human Resources Coordinator (or any other individual designated in the posted notice).

If no qualified employee submits a written request by 4 p.m. of the seventh (7th) day of the posting, the Employer shall be free to fill the vacancy from any source. The Employer shall select the qualified employee with the greatest seniority (giving preference first, regardless of seniority, to full-time employees within the department, then part-time employees within the department, then per diem employees within the department and then to any non-departmental employee with the greatest seniority). However, the Employer is not required to select any employee, regardless of his or her seniority and regardless of the number of applicants for the vacancy, if within the year prior to the employee's request the employee received a written warning or a disciplinary suspension and/or if the employee did not receive an overall rating of "satisfactory" or better on the employee's most recent evaluation form.

Any employee who is selected to fill a vacancy by this procedure shall be given a thirty (30) day trial period. In the event, the Employer deems that the employee has not performed in a satisfactory manner, the Employer shall return the employee to his or her former position, without any break in department or bargaining unit seniority, and re-post the vacancy.

The Facility, in its sole discretion, shall determine when there is a permanent vacancy.

# 8.4 NO BUMPING

It is understood that in none of the foregoing instances does this Agreement contemplate a bumping procedure.

# 8.5 LOSS OF SENIORITY

Seniority shall be terminated by:

- a. Discharge;
- b. Resignation;
- c. Absence in excess of twelve (12) consecutive months by reason of industrial injury for employees with fewer than five (5) years of service, or absence in excess of twenty-four (24) consecutive months by reason of industrial injury for employees with five (5) or more years of service, unless extended by mutual consent;
- d. Absence in excess of six (6) consecutive months by reason of illness or non-industrial injury, unless extended by mutual consent;
- e. Failure to return from a leave of absence in accordance with the terms of the leave;
- f. Displacement of twelve (12) months or more;
- g. Failure to report to work for three (3) consecutively scheduled shifts (no call/no show) where the absence has not been excused by the Employer.

# **SECTION 9 – ADDITIONAL WORK**

- 9.1 The Employer shall attempt to replace a scheduled employee who is absent for any reason (e.g., vacation, call off due to illness, etc.) by offering work in the following manner and order, provided such employee has made him/herself available through procedures established by the Employer.
  - a. Calling part-time employees by seniority until they have worked forty (40) hours in a week;
  - b. Calling per diem employees on an equitable basis;
  - c. Calling full-time employees by seniority.

The parties agree that this process shall be administered in such a manner as to minimize the expense of overtime and the Hospital shall retain the right to provide available work to an employee that will not incur overtime.

9.2 The Employer may first offer additional work to employees who were called off, provided such work is offered within the same pay period that the employees were called off.

- 9.3 A part-time or full-time employee who chooses not to be called for additional work will advise the Employer in writing and it is agreed that the Employer will not make such calls.
- 9.4 Overtime will also be offered by seniority on a rotating basis.

# SECTION 10 – WORK DISTRIBUTION

The Employer will exercise its best efforts to distribute the workload equitably among employees; however, this Section shall not be subject to the grievance and arbitration procedure in this Agreement.

# **SECTION 11 – ELIGIBILITY OF BENEFITS**

Only full-time and part time employees, who have successfully completed their probationary period, are entitled to benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Employer's Employee Handbook. Employees working fewer than twenty-four (24) hours per week, per diem, and temporary employees are not eligible to receive benefits other than those required by law. In the event that the Employer ceases, for whatever reason, to use twelve (12) hour work shifts in this Facility, then only full-time employees and those part time employees working a minimum of thirty (30) hours per week shall be entitled to benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Employer's Employee Handbook.

# **SECTION 12 – BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

Bereavement leave up to three (3) days with pay shall be granted to eligible employees in cases of a death in the employee's immediate family which shall be defined to include spouse, mother, father, daughter, son, sister, brother, grandparents and parents-in-law. An additional two (2) days with pay shall be allowed for the employee to attend a funeral out of state of California as long as the employee provides documentation of an out-of-state funeral. Pay for bereavement leave shall be at the same base rate and for the same number of hours the employee would have received had the normal schedule been worked, up to a maximum of eight (8) hours per day.

# **SECTION 13 – JURY DUTY**

Eligible employees who are required to serve on a jury shall be paid the difference between jury duty pay and their regular pay. Payment shall be at the same base rate and for the same number of hours the employee would have received had the normal schedule been worked, up to a maximum of eight (8) hours per day and forty (40) hours per work week. Paid jury duty shall be capped at fifteen (15) days in any twelve (12) month period. As a condition to receiving jury duty pay, the employee must notify the Employer as soon as practicable after receiving the

summons for jury duty and must provide the Employer with documentation of his/her jury duty pay.

# **SECTION 14 – PAID TIME OFF (P.T.O.)**

- 14.1 Except as noted below, eligible full-time employees shall be entitled to accrue, vest, utilize and cash out PTO to the same extent as hourly non-bargaining unit employees in this Facility.
- 14.2 PTO 36 Hour Schedule accrual rates are as follows:

Years of Service	PTO Accrual Rate per Hour Paid	Calendar Year Maximum (Annual Available PTO if 1872 Paid Hours per Year	Combined Maximum Balance (Accrued/ Available PTO Hours)	
Up to 5th Year Anniversary	.06414	15 Days/120 Hours	180 Hours	
From 5th Year Anniversary to 10th Year Anniversary	.07694	18 Days/144 Hours	216 Hours	
10th Year Anniversary and thereafter	.09832	23 Days/184 Hours	276 Hours	

# PTO 40 Hour Schedule accrual rates are as follows:

Years of Service	PTO Accrual Rate per Hour Paid	Calendar Year Maximum (Annual Available PTO if 1872 Paid Hours per Year	Combined Maximum Balance (Accrued/ Available PTO Hours)
Up to 5 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary	.05770	15 Days/120 Hours	180 Hours
From 5 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary to 10 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary	.06920	18 Days/144 Hours	216 Hours
10 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary and thereafter	.08844	23 Days/184 Hours	276 Hours

Years of service will be determined as of an employee's most recent date of hire at the Facility.

# 14.3 PTO CALCULATION

The amount of PTO is calculated by multiplying the PTO Accrual Rate Per Hour Paid by all hours paid (including holiday, PTO, jury duty, bereavement leave and overtime hours) each biweekly pay period (up to the stated maximum per calendar year).

- a. The maximum number of hours that vests each pay period can be calculated by dividing the employee's maximum accrual by twenty-six (26). The employee vests in accrued PTO based on a maximum of seventy-two (72) hours per biweekly pay period (for employees working fewer than twelve (12) hour shifts the maximum is eighty (80) hours per bi-weekly pay period). Any PTO accruals that exceed the biweekly limit will be carried over to vest in a following pay period in which the employee has fewer paid hours than the biweekly limit.
- b. PTO will not accrue during unpaid time or when an employee is on an authorized leave of absence unless otherwise required by law.
- c. The maximum amount of banked PTO an employee may have on the books at any given time will be one hundred-sixty (160) hours.

PTO will stop accruing when the employee's PTO balance reaches the combined maximum balance or the calendar year maximum accrual, whichever occurs first. PTO will resume accruing when the employee begins to use PTO and reduces the combined balance below the allowed maximums, so long as the calendar year maximum accrual has not been met. During any period that an employee's PTO account balance and/or annual accrual have reached allowed maximums, PTO does not accrue and any forfeited hours are not added retroactively to the employee's PTO account.

- 14.4 Accrued PTO hours shall accrue and become vested on a biweekly basis. PTO can only be used if vested; employees may not borrow against non-vested PTO. Eligible employees accrue PTO from date of hire but accrued PTO is not vested and available for the use of a new employee until the beginning of the first full pay period following the employee's first thirty (30) days of employment.
- 14.5 PTO may accrue from year to year; or in the alternative, an employee may elect to cash out all or part of PTO accrued each year at one hundred percent (100%) of the employees' then hourly rate; provided that the employee provides the Employer with written notice of the amount of PTO to be cashed out.
- 14.6 PTO is to be used for illness or other personal reasons, including vacation. An employee who leaves work early due to an illness or emergency may use PTO for the time remaining on his or her shift, but PTO may not be used to compensate employees who are late for work PTO may only be used to substitute for hours that the employee is

regularly scheduled but does not work. Except for the cash out provision of Section 14.5, PTO may not be used to supplement pay for time away from work.

- 14.7 PTO must be used in a minimum of two (2) hour increments.
- 14.8 The Employer may require a physician's statement for employees who are absent three (3) or more consecutive days of work because of illness or injury.
- 14.9 Except for absences due to illness or emergencies, PTO must be scheduled in advance. PTO shall be granted on a first come, first served basis, except under the following circumstance:

Employees who elect to use PTO for vacation of one (1) week or more must request it in writing by February 1 of each year each year. Such vacation will be taken through February 1 of the following year. The Employer will respond to all requests made before February 1, by March 1. Based on the Employer's scheduling needs and staffing requirements, the Employer shall attempt, but is not required, to grant the employee's requested vacation.

Any requests for two (2) weeks or more of PTO made after February 1 may be denied based on late submission alone. Requests for two (2) weeks or more of PTO for vacation made within sixty (60) days of the first (1st) day of vacation may be denied due to late submission alone.

For all vacation requests, where two (2) or more employees in the same job classification, on a timely basis, make the same or overlapping requests and the Employer is unable to accommodate all of the requests, it shall use seniority in determining which request, if any, to grant. Once a request is granted, it shall not be changed absent the mutual consent of the Employer and the employee.

- 14.10 An employee who changes his or her status such that he or she is no longer eligible to accrue PTO (i.e., from full time to per diem) shall be paid his or her accrued PTO, whether or not vested, at the employee's hourly rate in effect immediately prior to the employee's status change.
- 14.11 Upon termination, all accrued PTO, whether or not vested, shall be payable to the employee except that an employee terminated within his or her probationary period shall not be entitled to be paid for any accrued PTO, whether or not vested.
- 14.12 In the event that the Employer changes its PTO Plan with respect to non-represented employees working in the Facility, before implementing any such changes with respect to the employees covered by this Agreement, it shall notify the Union and engage in good faith bargaining.

# SECTION 15 – LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Employer and the Union agree to establish a Labor Management Communications Committee. The Committee will be composed of not less than two (2) nor more than five (5) employees and at least one (1) Employer representative. It will meet at least once every three (3) months, or more frequently as mutually agreed, to discuss and attempt to resolve any job-related issues, including those related to job security, workload, assignments, patient care, safety, infectious disease control and any other work-related issues. The parties agree that such meetings shall generally be limited to two (2) hours at a time, unless the parties agree otherwise. Committee member employees who attend the committee meetings will be paid for their time spent in the committee meeting at the straight-time hourly rate, not to exceed two (2) hours of pay, but such time shall not be considered for purposes of the payment of overtime.

# **SECTION 16 – HOLIDAYS**

16.1 The Employer recognizes the following holidays:

New Year's Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day

Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day
Labor Day

- 16.2 Observance of the holiday will be on the first, second, and third shifts that begin on the actual holiday.
- 16.3
- a. An eligible employee who works an eight (8) hour shift will receive holiday pay up to a maximum of eight (8) hours for a holiday recognized by the Employer. If the eligible employee works fewer than forty (40) hours per week, his/her pay will be pro-rated.
- b. An eligible employee who works a twelve (12) hour shift will receive holiday pay up to a maximum of twelve (12) hours for a holiday recognized by the Employer. If the eligible employee works fewer than thirty-six (36) hours per week, his/her pay will be pro-rated.
- c. Full-time employees who work on a holiday shall receive time and one-half (1-1/2) for all hours worked in addition to the holiday pay set forth in Subsections (a) and (b) above. Part-time and on call employees shall continue to receive time and one-half for all hours worked on the designated holidays.

# **SECTION 17 – HEALTH PROGRAM**

- 17.1 All bargaining unit employees who are regularly scheduled to work thirty (30) hours a week or more are eligible to participate in the Employer's standard medical, dental and vision plans and voluntary insurance plans, in the same manner and to the same extent that such plans are offered to the Hospital's non-bargaining unit employees.
- 17.2 Except as specifically provided in this Article, the Employer reserves the right to change, alter, amend or eliminate its standard medical, dental, vision, and voluntary insurance plans including changes to the conditions or costs for coverage, the plan choices offered, benefits provided and employee premiums, provided that:
  - a. any such action is consistent with changes made to the plan for non-exempt, non-bargaining unit employees in the Hospital; and
  - b. Kindred gives the Union thirty (30) days' notice of any change to the extent reasonably possible. If Kindred eliminates its wellness program, the Employer agrees to meet and discuss with the Union how to implement such elimination consistent with Section 17.3, below.
- 17.3 No increases to employee contribution percentages (Kaiser Medium plan) from its current percentages. During the term of this Agreement, the Hospital agrees to maintain and not to increase the employee percentage of the total monthly premium for the Kaiser Northern California Medium plan choices.

# 17.4 KAISER MEDIUM PLAN AND COST

a. Effective January 1, 2024, the Employer shall provide the Kaiser Medium Plan (the current plan) at the following percentage costs for employee and family coverage, subject to later provisions in this Article.

Coverage Level	Employee %	Employer %
Employee only	25%	75%
Employee + spouse	40%	60%
Employee + kids	37%	63%
Family	37%	63%

b. Changes to Kaiser Medium Plan. The parties understand that the benefits of the Kaiser Medium plan may be changed by Kaiser based on Kaiser's offerings to the Employer and that any such changes are permissible under this Agreement. The parties agree that the Employer shall select a Kaiser plan that is most similar to the current Kaiser Medium Plan if Kaiser no longer offers the same benefits plan under

the present Kaiser Medium plan. If the Kaiser Medium plan is changed, the Employer shall notify the Unions in writing and the Employer and the Union shall bargain over the proposed changes if so, requested within fourteen (14) days of notification to the Union. If the parties are unable to reach a timely agreement on this issue, Kindred may impose the proposed changes provided they are also made to the non-union, non-exempt employees at the Hospital.

# **SECTION 18 – GROUP LIFE INSURANCE**

Employees covered by this Agreement shall been titled to the life insurance and death and dismemberment insurance program offered by the Employer.

# SECTION 19 – SHORT- AND LONG-TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

Employees covered by this Agreement shall be entitled to the Short Term and Long-Term Disability Insurance Plans offered by the Employer.

# **SECTION 20 – RETIREMENT PLAN**

Employees covered by this Agreement shall be entitled to the Kindred 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan offered by the Employer.

# **SECTION 21 – LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

# 21.1 PERSONAL LEAVES

Personal leaves shall be granted at the discretion of the Employer.

# 21.2 PERSONAL MEDICAL LEAVES

The Employer will grant an employee a leave of absence for a medical condition verified by a physician in conformance with state, federal and local laws. The maximum leave shall be one year.

# 21.3 WORK RELATED MEDICAL LEAVES

The Employer will abide by state, federal and local law regarding the granting of work-related medical leaves to employees. The maximum leave shall be one year. Employees on a work-related medical leave shall receive up to twelve (12) weeks health insurance continuation.

# 21.4 EXTENSIONS

Extensions of any leave beyond the period required by law or Facility policies are at the discretion of the Employer.

# 21.5 RETURN FROM LEAVE

Upon return from a leave of absence, an employee will be returned to his/her former position or an equivalent position.

# 21.6 EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK GOVERNS

The leave of absence policies in the Employer's Employee Handbook shall govern employee leaves of absences to the extent not specifically addressed herein.

# 21.7 UNION LEAVES

The Employer will grant one employee at any given time a leave up to one (1) year for the purpose of working for the NUHW. With four (4) weeks' notice, an employee may return to duty at any time during or at the end of the one (1) year period.

# SECTION 22 – NON-HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

The Union and Employer agree that there shall be no harassment or discrimination by the Employer and/or the Union because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, religion, veteran status or the lawful exercise of rights guaranteed by Section 7 of the NLRA, as amended.

# **SECTION 23 – UNIFORMS**

When employees are required to wear uniforms or special type work clothes while in the employ of the Facility, the cost of laundering and furnishing the same shall be borne by the Facility, provided that the Facility shall not be required to furnish or launder apparel traditionally worn by such employees in hospitals generally. The term "uniform" includes wearing apparel and accessories of distinctive design or color.

Employees may take one clean uniform home so as to avoid the need to change clothes at the Facility.

Employees shall exercise reasonable care in maintaining their uniforms in good condition, given normal wear and tear, and shall return their uniforms to the Facility upon termination and prior to receiving their final paycheck. Employees shall be notified to these requirements upon receipt of a uniform.

# **SECTION 24 – MOONLIGHTING**

The Union will use its best efforts to cooperate with the Facility to prevent moonlighting that interferes with the employee's efficient performance of his/her duties with the Facility.

# **SECTION 25 – BULLETIN BOARD**

- 25.1 The Facility will provide a bulletin board directly next to the main cafeteria entrance for posting notices provided by the Union. This bulletin board shall be designated as a NUHW board and shall be equipped with a protective covering.
- Upon submission by the Union to a designated representative of the Facility of a Union notice officially approved by the Union containing no editorial comment, the Facility will promptly post such notice on the bulletin board. Such notice will remain posted for a reasonable time commensurate with its purpose.

# SECTION 26 – CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

The Hospital will continue the current practice of attempting to accommodate sincere moral or religious objections that may require an employee in good conscience to refuse direct participation in cases of withdrawal of life support systems. The Parties recognize, however, that patient care needs may require the Hospital to refuse such accommodations if reasonable alternatives are not available for the care of the patient.

# SECTION 27 – UNION REPRESENTATIVES' VISITATIONS

- 27.1 The Field Representative or qualified representative of the Union shall be allowed to visit the Facility for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not this Agreement is being observed or to observe job conditions under which employees are employed. This privilege shall be exercised reasonably and shall be related to the representative's responsibility for seeing that the Facility is in compliance with the Agreement.
- 27.2 The Field Representative or qualified representative of the Union shall report to a designated management official when entering the Facility and such representative shall not interfere with the normal conduct of work in the Facility. The Union representative may confer with employees, including Shop Stewards, only upon their own free time and in public areas within the Facility such as cafeterias or coffee shops or in designated nonwork areas.
- 27.3 In the case of a tour to observe conditions, the Field Representative or qualified representative shall notify the designated management official where he/she intends to go within the permitted areas of the Facility. The Field Representative shall not engage in discussion or distribution of material in work areas.

- 27.4 In the case of a grievance investigation, the Field Representative shall make an appointment in advance with the designated representative of management. Prompt and reasonable arrangements will be made so that a joint investigation of the grievance can be made.
- 27.5 The Field Representative assigned to the Facility may request a job description or job descriptions of bargaining unit positions if such descriptions exist. Such description or descriptions shall be given to the Field Representative in all cases where they are available or, if in the process of revision, as soon as the revised description or descriptions become available.
- 27.6 Employees appointed or elected to the Union Negotiating Committee shall receive full credit towards accrual of seniority and benefits, including any payment thereof, for all time missed from their regular work schedules due to negotiations.
- 27.7 Upon written request from the Union, at least one (1) week in advance, whenever possible, the Employer shall provide the Union access and use of conference rooms in the facility, including the Education Room (near the Pharmacy). Conference rooms will be used for the purpose of meeting with stewards and bargaining unit members on the employee's non work time.
- 27.8 The Employer shall provide a glass enclosed bulletin board adjacent to the Employee time clock adjacent to the cafeteria. The Hospital shall maintain other current bulletin boards and posting practices.
- 27.9 The Facility and the Union shall reasonably apply the provisions of this Section.

# **SECTION 28 – SHOP STEWARDS**

- 28.1 The Union may select a reasonable number of Shop Stewards for the Facility. The Union shall provide written notification to the Facility Administrator or her/his designee of the names of Shop Stewards as they are appointed and as their appointment ends.
- 28.2 It is preferred that the Shop Stewards shall be regular full time or part-time employees with at least twelve (12) months of employment at the Facility.
- 28.3 The Shop Steward shall only deal with the representatives of the Facility designated to handle grievances.
- 28.4 The function of the Shop Steward shall be to assist employees in settling problems arising in connection with the application or interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement directly with the Facility Administrator or such other person as the Facility may designate and to participate, at the option of the employee, in the Grievance Conference described in Section 31, Grievance and Arbitration Procedure.

- 28.5 The Shop Steward shall perform his/her functions outside of his/her working hours on his/her own time; provided, however, that if grievance meetings are scheduled during working hours, participating stewards shall not suffer any loss in pay.
- 28.6 The Shop Steward shall not direct any employee how to perform or not perform his/her work, shall not countermand the order of any supervisor, and shall not interfere with the normal operations of the Facility or any other employee. His/her activities as a Shop Steward shall in no way interfere with his/her assigned duties as an employee.
- 28.7 The Facility's designated representative is only required to meet with one (1) Shop Steward on any grievance.
- 28.8 In connection with investigatory interviews required by the Facility in which an employee reasonably believes that such investigation will result in disciplinary action, an employee upon his or her request shall be entitled to have a Union representative, Field Representative, and/or Shop Steward present, provided that such disciplinary interviews are not delayed by the inability to have both Union representatives present. It is understood that the role of the Union representative be strictly in accord with NLRB v. WEINGARTEN. In those cases where there are two (2) Union representatives present, there shall be only one (1) spokesperson, and the other representative shall serve only as observer.

# **SECTION 29 – COMPLAINTS**

- 29.1 It is hoped that most questions arising under this Agreement can be settled short of following the formal Grievance Procedure. The Facility recommends that an employee who has a claim or complaint discuss the matter with his/her supervisor. If the employee prefers, however, the employee may first consult with a Union official. There will be no retaliation against any employee for presenting a claim or complaint or for consulting a Union official in the first instance.
- 29.2 If an employee has any complaints, which the employee believes have not been properly considered by the supervisor, the employee may confer with the Administrator or his/her designated representative. At this conference, the employee may be accompanied by a Union official. The employee shall be entitled to an answer within a reasonable length of time.
- 29.3 Included among the subjects upon which conferences may be requested are problems relating to verbal warnings, workloads, and adequate staffing. It is agreed that such cases or subjects are not subject to the Grievance Procedure except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement. However, conferences may be requested in cases of disciplinary layoff or discharge, and such cases shall be subject to the Grievance Procedure, including arbitration, as provided below.
- 29.4 An employee who receives a written warning or counseling memorandum shall be given a copy of the warning and shall sign a receipt which indicates the employee

acknowledges having received the document. Acknowledging receipt of such document shall not constitute an admission of the employee's agreement with the substance of the warning. An employee may grieve a written warning or counseling memorandum provided the grievance is presented in writing within ten (10) working days upon receipt of the warning or memorandum. Letters of warning and counseling memoranda shall be given consideration based upon the seriousness of the incident and the length of time since the occurrence of the incident.

29.5 Periodic performance evaluation reports are intra-Facility records and are not subject to the provisions of this Section or the Grievance Procedure. Upon request, an employee may have a copy of his or her performance evaluation.

# SECTION 30 – DISCHARGE FOR CAUSE

# 30.1 JUST CAUSE

Except during an employee's probationary period, the Employer shall only discipline or terminate an employee for just cause. Any discipline or discharge shall be subject to the grievance and arbitration procedure in this Agreement or legal remedies, if appropriate.

# 30.2 PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

Except for cases of serious misconduct or serious job performance deficiencies, which may result in immediate separation of employment, the Employer shall take a performance improvement and progressive corrective action approach. Progressive discipline steps include coaching, verbal counseling, written counseling and/or warning, final written warning or warnings, disciplinary suspension without pay, and termination of employment.

# 30.3 INVESTIGATORY SUSPENSION

Employees shall be paid while on investigatory suspension for the employees' scheduled hours, including any differentials that would have applied if the employee had worked such scheduled hours.

# 30.4 WRITTEN DISCIPLINARY ACTION

A written warning or other disciplinary notice is a document designated as such by the Hospital. An employee who receives a written warning or other disciplinary notice shall be given a copy of the document and may be asked to sign a receipt to acknowledge having received the document. Acknowledging receipt of the document shall not constitute an admission of the employee's agreement with the substance of the warning or other disciplinary notice.

# 30.5 DISCIPLINARY NOTICES, REBUTTAL, AND INSPECTION OF PERSONNEL FILE

- a. There shall be one official personnel file for each bargaining unit Employee. The Employee shall have the right to inspect and to be provided, on request, with a copy of any document in the employee's own file.
- b. Employees will receive copies of all disciplinary notices placed in their personnel file and shall have the right to rebut in writing any disciplinary notice. Such rebuttals, other than grievances, shall be attached to the disciplinary notice and placed in the personnel file.
- c. In any case where the Employer and the Union agree to revise personnel record material, the Employer shall, upon request, provide evidence of such revision.

# d. Use of disciplinary documents

No disciplinary documentation shall be utilized for progressive discipline beyond 12 months of its issuance, provided no further occurrence of the same nature has taken place within that time, in which case the 12-month period will start over. In the case of a final written warning or disciplinary suspension for patient care issues, disciplinary documentation shall not be utilized for progressive discipline beyond 24 months of its issuance, provided no further occurrence of the same nature has taken place within that time frame, in which case the 24-month period will start over.

# 30.6 PATIENT CARE COMPLAINTS

- a. In cases involving patient care, the Hospital may issue discipline if the Hospital had a reasonable and good faith belief after a thorough investigation which included a fair opportunity for the employee to tell his/her side of the story, that the alleged actions or failure to act occurred. The Employer agrees to submit to the Union the substantive results pertaining to the employee against whom discipline has been issued, of any investigation conducted by:
  - i. the Hospital; or
  - ii. the State of California Department of Health on the incident in dispute.
- b. The following factors will apply in determining whether the Employer's belief was reasonable and in good faith:
  - i. the strength of the Employer's investigation;
  - ii. the strength of the evidence supporting the allegation;
  - iii. the employee's work history;
  - iv. the resident's complaint history;
  - v. the resident's cognitive ability;
  - vi. physical evidence, if any; and
  - vii. other such factors traditionally reviewed in disciplinary cases.

- c. Employees have an affirmative duty to honestly cooperate in Employer investigations relating to employee conduct and patient care issues. Employees have an affirmative duty to report suspected patient abuse or violation of resident rights.
- d. The Employer and the Union agree that, absent exceptional circumstances, patients should not be compelled to be involved in the Grievance and Arbitration process. Therefore, the parties agree that the arbitrator shall decide whether to admit into evidence any statements received from patients who do not appear as witnesses at the arbitration (the arbitrator may also decide whether to admit statements from non-testifying family members and visitors). The Arbitrator shall also determine the appropriate weight to be given in the event of the failure of any patient, visitor, or family member to testify at arbitration, subject to cross-examination. The parties further agree that the arbitrator may allow patients, visitors, or family members to testify telephonically, subject to cross-examination, in cases where such persons are ready, willing and able to do so.
- e. The Arbitrator shall determine the weight of the Union's lack of access to interview and/or to cross-examine the Hospital's witness(es), if the Union lacks such access.

# SECTION 31 – GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

31.1 Any problem arising in connection with the application or interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement, including the problems of discipline and discharge, which cannot be amicably adjusted between an employee of the Facility and the Department Head, or such other person as the Facility Administrator may designate, shall be reduced to writing, signed by the employee or Union representative, whichever is appropriate, and submitted to a Facility representative designated by the Facility. No grievance shall be considered unless it has been first presented in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days of the alleged incident(s) giving rise to the grievance. All incidents leading to disciplinary action must be presented to the employee within thirty (30) calendar days of the incident(s). Failure to do this will make the disciplinary action untimely. The only exception shall be in a case of patient abuse, substantiated by State authorities, where the disciplinary time limits may be extended.

The Union has the right to grieve the changes to the Employer's Employee Handbook, regarding rules, regulations and employment policies as to their being reasonable when they are applied.

# 31.2 GRIEVANCE CONFERENCE

a. Step 1. Within seven (7) days of receipt of the written grievance by the Facility, the Union, the employee, and the Department Manager or Chief Clinical Officer or his or her designee shall meet and attempt to resolve the matter informally. Additional meetings may be scheduled by agreement. Within ten (10) calendar days after the meeting, the Manager or her/his designee shall respond to any grievance in writing regarding the Employer's decision. Such response shall be to the Union.

b. Step 2. Within seven (7) days of receipt of the written answer by the Facility, the Union may appeal the determination to Step 2. Within fourteen (14) days after the appeal to Step 2 the Union, affected employee(s) and the CEO or his or her designee shall meet and attempt to resolve the matter. Additional meetings may be scheduled by mutual agreement. Within ten (10) calendar days after the last meeting, the Labor Relations Counsel or her/his designee shall respond to any grievance in writing regarding the Employer's decision. Such response shall be to the Union.

# 31.3 ARBITRATION REQUEST

Following management's response on the grievance as referenced above, any party wishing to pursue the grievance will have no more than thirty (30) days from date of management's response, in Step 2 above, provide the other party written notice of the intent to move the matter to arbitration. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the automatic denial and dismissal of the grievance.

# 31.4 ARBITRATION

- a. Upon receipt of a timely, written request for arbitration, the Union and the Facility shall within thirty (30) days select an impartial third party to be the Arbitrator to hear and determine the issues. The decision of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding on all parties, subject to the limitations of jurisdiction and authority contained in Section 31.7 of this Article, below. In the event the parties cannot agree on the selection of an impartial third party, within thirty (30) days the moving party shall request a list of seven (7) Labor Arbitrators from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. The parties shall, within five (5) days of the receipt of the list, alternately strike names from such list until one name remains, which person shall be the Arbitrator.
- b. The fee of the Arbitrator, as well as other expenses connected with the formal hearing, shall be borne equally by both parties.
- c. Unless both parties agree in writing to waive the use of a Court Reporter, a Court Reporter will be used for every arbitration hearing and the parties will share equally the cost of the original and two (2) copies of the transcript, as well as the per diem fee of the Court Reporter.
- 31.5 A Field Representative or qualified representative of the Union may, as relates to a particular grievance or investigation concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement, inspect relevant material in such employee's personnel file upon which the Facility is or will be relying.
- 31.6 The time limits provided for herein may be waived only by the mutual written agreement of the Facility and the Union.

# 31.7 POWERS OF THE ARBITRATOR

a. The arbitrator shall have no power to add or subtract or modify any of the terms of this Agreement. In the event the arbitrator finds a breach of the Agreement, he/she must specifically state the provision violated and the evidentiary grounds supporting

- his/her decision. Jurisdiction shall extend solely to claims of violation of specific written provisions of the Agreement and involve only the interpretation and application of such Agreement.
- b. All claims for back wages may be limited to the amount the employee otherwise would have earned, less any employment and unemployment benefit compensation the employee received. The award may consider other legal doctrines, as argued by the parties, such as mitigation of damages.

# **SECTION 32 – SAFETY**

The Facility will comply with applicable Federal and California laws and regulations pertaining to occupational safety and health. Likewise, it is the duty of each employee to comply with all health and safety regulations of the Employer. In the event any safety or health hazard is detected, it shall be promptly reported to the Employer. The Employer shall then have a reasonable period of time to remedy the situation. If, in the judgment of the employee or the Union, the Employer shall thereafter fail to completely remedy the situation, the employee or the Union shall be free to contact the Industrial Safety Commission of the State of California for appropriate action. Disputes concerning conditions of health and safety within the Facility shall not be subject to the complaints and the grievance and arbitration procedure of this Agreement, but shall be subject to the applicable administrative procedures established by Federal and California laws.

The Parties shall discuss safety during the Labor Management Communications Committee, if requested to do so.

# SECTION 33 – SAVINGS CLAUSE

If any provision of this Agreement or the application of such provisions to any persons or circumstances be ruled contrary to applicable law, the remainder of this Agreement or the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

# **SECTION 34 – MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

- 34.1 It is mutually agreed that it is the duty and right of the Administration to manage the Facility and direct the workforce.
- 34.2 The Employer retains the right to hire, direct and schedule the workforce; to plan, direct, and to control operations; to discontinue or reorganize any or all departments or operations; to transfer, to promote, layoff, and discharge employees for just cause; to implement reasonable rules, regulations and employment policies; to introduce new or improved methods of facilities and in all respects to carry out the ordinary and customary functions of Management. All other rights of the Employer are also expressly retained

even though not particularly enumerated above. The foregoing provisions shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The terms and conditions set forth in the Employer's Employee Handbook shall govern the employment of employees covered by this Agreement to the extent that the Employee Handbook is not inconsistent with this Agreement.

# SECTION 35 – NO STRIKE-NO LOCKOUT

There shall be no strike, slowdown, walkout, shutdown, or other stoppage of work by the Union or Union employees and no lockout by the Employer during the life of this Agreement.

The observance of a picket line at covered Employer which is established by a labor organization presently recognized by the Employer for purposes of collective bargaining, and which picket line is authorized by the Central Labor Council shall not be a violation of this Agreement; provided, however, that if the Union supports another Union's picket line during the term of this agreement, the Union recognizes its obligation to maintain essential services.

# **SECTION 36 – PATIENT CARE**

The Facility, its employees and the Union understand and agree that it should be the objective of all parties to provide high quality healthcare. The Facility and employees must be committed to serving the Hospital's patients by delivering the highest quality care possible. The parties agree and understand that high quality patient care can help be achieved if management and employees discuss and address patient care issues together.

# 36.1 PURPOSE

The Union and Hospital agree that quality patient care and an appropriate working environment require adequate staffing and that staffing levels within all departments vary with census, acuity, shift, specialization, changes in the specialization of units, structural changes in delivery of patient services and qualitative changes in average acuity. The purpose of the Patient Care Committee (PCC) is to improve Patient Care and working conditions (for example, staffing, patient services delivery or work design). The Facility shall not require an employee to perform a work assignment outside the lawful scope of his/her/their license, however the situation must be brought to the attention of management prior to refusing any assignment for a determination as to whether the assignment is properly within the scope of license.

# 36.2 COMPOSITION

The PCC shall consist of four (4) bargaining unit employees, chosen by the Union. The Union Representative(s) may attend and participate in any meeting of the PCC, however they shall not be considered a member of the committee. The Union shall designate the members of the PCC in writing. All participation by bargaining unit employees on the PCC or on the Joint Practice Committee (described below) shall be on a strictly voluntary

basis. The Hospital may designate up to an equal number of PCC attendees as the number designated by the Union. At a minimum, the Hospital's CEO, Chief Clinical Officer and/or Director of Quality Management shall make best efforts to attend at least one (1) hour of a PCC meeting each month.

# 36.3 <u>MEETINGS</u>

The Hospital will grant up to two (2) hours of paid release time per month for each of the designated PCC members to attend PCC meetings and/or Joint Practice Committee meetings. PCC release time shall be paid at the employee's base rate of pay and shall not be considered hours worked for any purpose. The Union shall provide at least seven (7) calendar days' written notice to the Hospital of scheduled PCC meetings. A written agenda shall be prepared and submitted by the Union to Management at this time and if no agenda is provided the meeting shall not be scheduled. Site visits by regulatory agencies or unforeseen staffing needs (to maintain compliance with applicable state law and regulations) may require the rescheduling of PCC meetings. The PCC shall maintain an attendance roster and a record of who attends each PCC meeting, and shall provide such record to the Hospital after each PCC meeting.

# 36.4 JOINT PRACTICE COMMITTEE

If the PCC wishes to bring an issue before the Joint Practice Committee, the PCC shall first make a written recommendation to the CEO of the Hospital, or her/his/their designee. The Hospital recognizes the important role of the PCC and will duly consider the PCC's recommendations. If the Hospital and the PCC cannot resolve the issue informally, the PCC may refer the issue to the Joint Practice Committee. A meeting of the Joint Practice Committee shall be convened within fifteen (15) days of the referral by the PCC, but not more frequently than once per month. The Joint Practice Committee shall be composed of:

- a. two (2) members designated by the Union (including at least one bargaining unit employee); and
- b. two (2) members designated by the Hospital (management/non-unit employee).

The recommendation of the Joint Practice Committee shall be reached within thirty (30) days of the committee's last meeting regarding the issue. In carrying out their work, the Committee shall take into account-area standards regarding staffing, state and federal laws, physician recommendations regarding quality-of-care business needs and any other relevant information.

# **SECTION 37 – RESPIRATORY STAFFING**

# 37.1 PURPOSE

Safe respiratory care is largely dependent on staffing adequate numbers of competent respiratory therapists (RTs). Understaffing puts at risk the welfare and safety of patients and does not allow care consistent with national guidelines and community practice. The

parties agree to meet to discuss RT staffing on a regular basis. RT staffing issues should be included on the PCC Agenda for discussion to address concerns.

# 37.2 <u>ADEQUATE STAFFING</u>

If the Respiratory Department is short staffed (because of call outs or high acuity, for example), management will make every effort to call in coverage.

# **SECTION 38 – COMPLIANCE WITH LAW**

The Employer shall comply with any and all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, current or enacted during the term of this Agreement.

# **SECTION 39 – MANDATORY VACCINATIONS**

The Hospital is permitted to mandate vaccinations including, but not limited to flu and COVID vaccines, subject to pregnancy, disability, or other medical exceptions and religious objections. A failure to mandate the flu vaccine for one or more flu seasons shall not waive this right in future years. Should an employee decline vaccination(s) for valid religious or medical reasons, they must comply with all then current approved procedures for approval of the declination and follow all procedures for use of PPE and protection of patients and other staff from exposure.

# SECTION 40 – SAFE PATIENT HANDLING

The Employer shall maintain a safe patient handling policy at all times for all patient care units, and shall provide trained lift teams or other support staff trained in safe lifting techniques. The Employer shall comply with all laws governing safe patient handling. During the first year of the Agreement, the Employer agrees to meet with the Labor Management Communications Committee at least once per month, if the employees on the LMCC or the Union so requests.

# SECTION 41 - TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement is effective September 28, 2023 and shall remain in full force and effect through March 31, 2026 and from year to year thereafter unless either party shall deliver to the other written notice of its desire to terminate or amend the Agreement at least ninety (90) days prior to March 31, 2026.

KINDRED HOSPITAL-SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

David Keating

Vice President of Labor Relations

Kindred

Date: 3/2.2

NATIONAL UNION OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Sal Rosselli

President

NUHW

Date:

Joaquin Recinos

Coordinator, NUHW

# NUHW BARGAINING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kris Parra RN Advanced Skills

Rudolfo Siaotong Operating Room Technician

Neeraj Lal RN Advanced Skills

Catherine Jordan Respiratory Therapist

Rohit Sharma Radiology Technologist

Irina Wojciechowski Phlebotomist

# **APPENDIX A – WAGES**

- 1 Wage Increases effective the first full pay period following:
  - a. September 28, 2023 (retroactive to the first full pay period after September 1, 2023), the Employer will provide the greater of a three- percent (3.0%) wage increase to all full-time and part-time employees (2% for per diem employees) with six (6) months or more of employment OR a move to the applicable step on the Hiring Grid (the "True up") based on the employee's continuous service in their current job classification at the Hospital. No employee may be below the minimum Step 0 on the Hiring Grid for their classification regardless of years of experience or any Wage Increase Cap placed on a wage increase. The parties agree that there shall be a fifteen percent (15%) Wage Increase Cap on any wage increase except as necessary to bring employees to the applicable Step 0 for their job classification at the Hospital. The across-the-board increase is applied before the True up not afterward.
  - b. May 1, 2024, the Employer will provide a three percent (3%) wage increase to all full-time and part-time employees (2% for per diem employees) with six (6) months or more of employment.
  - c. May 1, 2025, the Employer will provide a three percent (3%) wage increase to all full-time and part-time employees (2% for per diem employees) with six (6) months or more of employment.
  - d. Each of the above increases will be for those employees with six (6) months or more of service as of the effective date of the increase.
  - e. Each of the above across the board increases will be effective the first full pay period following the date above.
  - f. Wage increases required by law to meet state, county, or municipal minimum wage requirements shall have the percentage increase credited against any wage increase provided above.

# 2. Hiring Grid

- a. The following is the minimum Hiring Grid to establish the starting wage rates of employees hired into a bargaining unit position. Placement of new unit employees into the grid will be based on years of prior experience as determined at Kindred's sole discretion. The grid will not be used for any purpose other than to establish minimum rates upon hire into the unit. Once hired into the unit, new employees will be eligible for the annual increases, as described above, but not any further grid increases. The grid will not be adjusted upward by the annual increases, above.
- b. Employees at or above the maximum rates on the hiring grid: These employees shall receive wage increases as per the above. Effective January 1, 2026, these employees shall receive bonuses in lieu of subsequent across the board wage increases equal to

- the amount of the across the board increase for all hours worked in the last twelve (12) months.
- c. The Hospital retains the discretion to increase the hiring rate (Step 0) for any or all classifications upon notice to the Union and all subsequent hiring grid steps shall be 1.5% between steps unless the Hospital uses its discretion to increase such percentage between some or all of the steps for some or all of the classifications and so notifies the Union.

Job Title	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Max
Computer Tomography Tech	\$43.00	\$43.65	\$44.30	\$44.96	\$45.64	\$46.32	\$47.02	\$47.72	\$48.44	\$49.17	\$49.90	\$50.65	\$51.41	\$59.12
Materials Management Clk	\$20.00	\$20.30	\$20.60	\$20.91	\$21.23	\$21.55	\$21.87	\$22.20	\$22.53	\$22.87	\$23.21	\$23.56	\$23.91	\$27.50
Medical Technologist (CLS)	\$45.00	\$45.68	\$46.36	\$47.06	\$47.79	\$48.48	\$49.20	\$49.94	\$50.69	\$51.45	\$52.22	\$53.01	\$53.80	\$61.87
Operating Room Technician	\$31.91	\$32.39	\$32.87	\$33.37	\$33.87	\$34.38	\$34.89	\$35.42	\$35.95	\$36.49	\$37.03	\$37.59	\$38.15	\$43.88
Phlebotomist	\$24.00	\$24.36	\$24.73	\$25.10	\$25.47	\$25.85	\$26.24	\$26.64	\$27.04	\$27.44	\$27.85	\$28.27	\$28.69	\$33.00
Radiology Technologist	\$41.00	\$41.62	\$42.24	\$42.87	\$43.52	\$44.17	\$44.83	\$45.50	\$46.19	\$46.88	\$47.58	\$48.30	\$49.02	\$56.37
Registered Nurse	\$58.68	\$59.56	\$60.45	\$61.36	\$62.28	\$63.22	\$64.16	\$65.13	\$66.10	\$67.09	\$68.10	\$69.12	\$70.16	\$80.68
Respiratory Therapist	\$43.00	\$43.65	\$44.30	\$44.96	\$45.64	\$46.32	\$47.02	\$47.72	\$48.44	\$49.17	\$49.90	\$50.65	\$51.41	\$59.12
RN Advanced Skills	\$64.55	\$65.52	\$66.50	\$67.50	\$68.51	\$69.54	\$70.58	\$71.64	\$72.72	\$73.81	\$74.91	\$76.04	\$77.18	\$88.75

# APPENDIX B – DIFFERENTIALS

	Per Diem Differential	Shift Differential	Weekend 1 Differential	Weekend 2 Differential
Rad Tech	10%	1.50	N/A	1.50
RT/RCP	10%	2.50	N/A	8.50
RN	10%	3.80	N/A	3.80
Lab Tech	10%	1.50	N/A	1.50
Phlebotomist	10%	1.50	N/A	1.50
O.R. Tech	10%	1.50	N/A	1.50
Materials Clerk	10%	N/A	N/A	N/A

	On Call/Hr.	Call-In 2hrs. Minimum	Preceptor	Extra Shift Premium
Rad Tech	5.00	At time and one half	2.00	N/A
RT/RCP	N/A	N/A	2.00	6.25
RN	N/A	N/A	2.00	12.50
Lab Tech	5.00	At time and one half	N/A	N/A
Phlebotomist	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
O.R. Tech	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Materials Clerk	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – REGARDING DIFFERENTIALS AND PAY PRACTICES

During bargaining for this initial contract discussion was conducted regarding maintaining existing differentials for bargaining unit staff with the one (1) exception of adding Respiratory Therapists to those eligible for the Preceptor differential (at the same rates as RNs and Rad Techs). It was the intent of the parties to continue certain existing pay practices without change and to administer them in the same manner as before the existence of this Agreement, i.e., per diem differential.

Specifically, the Hospital will continue to apply certain differentials (such as the Extra Shift Differential and the New Hire Bonus) when it is necessary to incent staff to work extra shifts or encourage new hires to accept open positions. The Employer has discretion to discontinue said differentials when such incentives are no longer necessary. However, when a bonus will be put in place (e.g., an extended extra shift or a "New Hire" or "Refer a Friend" bonus) the Hospital will notify the Union of such a bonus as soon as possible prior to implementation and will provide the Union with ten (10) days' notice of its intent to terminate such bonus.

With regard to per diem differentials paid to employees who are hired in that status or to employees who reduce their status from benefited to per diem, the parties agree that only employees with three (3) or more years of experience in their classification, regardless of Employer, will be eligible for the per diem differential. However, the parties agree that the Hospital will not change the pay rates of any employees who become per diem or become benefited and who were hired prior to the May 22, 2017, ratification of this Agreement. In addition, when an employee is hired per diem, he/she shall be informed in writing what his/her base rate is and if he/she is receiving or not receiving a per diem differential.

The parties agree that this MOU is an enforceable contract with valid mutual consideration.

# THE SEVEN POINTS OF JUST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

If the answer to these seven questions is **YES**, Management has a just cause for discipline:

- 1. **Fair Notice** Did Management make the worker aware of the rule or policy which they are being accused of violating?
- 2. **Prior Enforcement** Has Management recently enforced the rule or policy or penalized other workers for violating the same rule or policy?
- 3. **Due Process** Did Management conduct an interview or hearing before issuing the discipline, take action promptly and list charges precisely?
- 4. **Substantial Proof** Was Management's decision to accord discipline based on credible and substantial evidence?
- 5. **Equal Treatment** Is the punishment Management is proposing consistent with the punishment other workers received for the same or substantially similar offense?
- 6. **Progressive Discipline** During the disciplinary process, did Management issue at least one level of discipline that allowed the employee an opportunity to improve?
- 7. **Mitigating and Extenuating Circumstances** Was the discipline proportional to the gravity of the offense, taking into account any mitigating, extenuating or aggravating circumstances?

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