



CEDARS-SINAI ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

UNITED FOR OUR PATIENTS



UNION OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS & DENTISTS

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Cedars-Sinai Anesthesiologists Overwhelmingly Vote to Join Union Amidst Serious Concerns Over Patient Care and Working Conditions

**LOS ANGELES, CA** – Physician anesthesiologists at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, one of America's most prestigious hospitals, have made an historic decision to join the Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD). The vote comes as a response to extreme burnout caused by low staffing levels, raising critical concerns about the quality of patient care.

"In an era dominated by the corporatization of healthcare, it is truly extraordinary to witness the unity of Cedars-Sinai anesthesiologists. By choosing to join forces and make their voices heard, these physicians exemplify a commitment to protecting the quality of care for their patients. This courageous step underscores the importance of collective advocacy in safeguarding the principles of healthcare against external pressures," said Stuart A. Bussey, M.D., J.D., UAPD President.

The anesthesiologists, facing challenges in their efforts for change at Cedars-Sinai, have taken the extraordinary step of forming a union to have a collective voice in patient care and working conditions. Allegations of abuse, threats, and intimidation tactics by Cedars-Sinai leadership have prompted the anesthesiologists to file complaints with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

The allegations include intimidation at work, threats of termination for union activity, surveillance of employees engaging in union activities, suggestions of replacement by anesthesiologists from other facilities, and threats to discontinue the anesthesiology resident training program if unionization is successful.

Anesthesiologists leading the unionization effort issued the following statement:

"We would much rather be spending our time and energy taking care of patients, conducting research, and training the next generation of physicians. Instead, after years of neglect, broken promises, and falling behind on having enough doctors to care for our patients, we had no option left but to unionize. We will not be browbeaten into submission when safe care and adequate staffing for our patients is on the line."

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\*Note: Cedars-Sinai's physician anesthesiologists are technically employed by Beverly Anesthesiology.

\*\*The names of the anesthesiologists are kept confidential due to the risk of further retaliation by the hospital.

About UAPD, AFSCME:

The Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD) is a proud affiliate of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). UAPD represents healthcare professionals working at the California State University (CSU) Student Health Centers, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), and the County of Los Angeles. The UAPD works to ensure that doctors and patients have a voice in the workplace and in the public policy process, advocating for high-quality healthcare for all.