

January 5, 2024

Andrew Baxter
Chief Nursing Officer
St. Joseph Medical Center
1717 S J St
Tacoma, WA 98405

Andrew,

Over the last month there has been a drastic increase in Assignment Despite Objection forms filed by the nurses at St. Joseph Medical Center. As elected officers of our Bargaining Unit, we review each submission as it arrives. It is heartbreaking to encounter narratives from nurses who face heightened patient loads, utilize faulty equipment, and express genuine concerns about patient safety.

We have read ADOs where nurses must choose between not taking a break or leaving their colleagues with an 8:1 ratio in the PCU because there is no break relief. Nurses in med/surg who are given an increasing number of patients with reduced support. Across the hospital, we are continually being asked to work in conditions that do not allow us to provide the safe, quality care that we are capable of.

We express unwavering solidarity with our colleagues at St. Joseph Medical Center and implore you to collaborate with us in developing staffing solutions so we can provide the best care possible for our patients and community.

In unity,

Emily Nollmeyer, Co-Chair
Matthew McGuire, Co-Chair
Sally Budack, Co-Secretary
Shannon Suchland, Co-Secretary
Shelly Mead, Grievance Officer
Yunna Flenord, Grievance Officer
Carina Price, Membership Officer
Rachel Wachter, Membership Officer
Teresa Kindell, Membership Coordinator
Jared Richardson, WSNA Nurse Representative