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Concord Hospital – Laconia and Franklin Nurses Vote to Unionize with SEA/SEIU Local 1984

First Private-Sector Hospital Union in New Hampshire Makes History

Concord, NH – In a landmark victory for workers and patients alike, the registered nurses at Concord Hospital – Laconia and Franklin Campuses have voted to unionize, officially joining the State Employees' Association of New Hampshire, SEIU Local 1984. This makes Concord Hospital – Laconia and Franklin the first private hospitals in New Hampshire where nurses have organized a union, marking a historic step for labor rights in the Granite State.

The election, overseen by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), resulted in a decisive win for the nurses, who have been organizing for months to secure a stronger voice in patient care, staffing, and workplace safety.

"This is a monumental day for New Hampshire workers," said Rich Gulla, President of SEA/SEIU Local 1984. "The nurses at Concord Hospital – Laconia and Franklin have spoken loud and clear: they want a seat at the table. They stood together for their patients, their community, and for each other—and today, they won."

The decision comes after months of organizing and engagement among the hospital's frontline nurses, who cited concerns over staffing shortages, burnout, and the need for greater input in decisions affecting patient care. With this vote, roughly 150 registered nurses at the Laconia campus and about 24 at the Franklin campus will now have the power to collectively bargain for fair wages, safe staffing, and the resources necessary to provide the highest quality care.

"For us, this was never just about wages or benefits," said one registered nurse at the hospital. "It's about having a voice in how care is delivered, protecting our patients, and making sure nurses are respected for the work we do every single day."

The victories at Concord Hospital – Laconia and Franklin could pave the way for healthcare workers at other private hospitals in New Hampshire to pursue unionization, setting a new precedent for the state's healthcare system.

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