

Nurses File Unfair Labor Practice Charges Against Teamsters

Ascension Genesys nurses said Teamsters officials threatened "to fire them and others if they didn't sign forms authorizing union officials to deduct dues from their paychecks."

Two Ascension Genesys nurses suing Teamsters for unfair labor practices

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By Emily Keinath

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GENESEE CO., Mich. (WNEM) - Two nurses at Ascension Genesys Hospital have pressed unfair labor practice charges against Teamsters Local 332 stemming from union dues.

According to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), Madrina Wells and Lynette Doyle said their union bosses threatened to fire them and others if they didn't sign forms authorizing union officials to deduct dues from their paychecks.

Michigan's "right-to-work" law was repealed on Feb. 13. The right-to-work law protected workers from being required to pay union dues or fees as a condition of employment and gave them the ability to opt out.

Since its repeal, union bosses can now require workers to pay union dues or fees as a condition of their employment, the NLRB said.

Even though Michigan doesn't have "right-to-work" protections, federal law prohibits union bosses from requiring workers to authorize a direct deduction of union dues from their paychecks, according to the NLRB.

According to the NLRB, both nurses said Teamsters officials threatened them "and similarly situated employees with termination of their employment if they refused to complete and submit a dues check-off authorization by July 12."

The NLRB is investigating Wells' and Doyle's allegations.

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