

Victory at Hyatt Place O'Hare: All Shuttle Drivers Return to Work After 727 Successfully Combats Hyatt Place's Anti-Union Acts at the Labor Board

Shortly before the coronavirus pandemic hit, Teamsters Local 727 filed an election petition with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) for Hyatt Place O'Hare LLC, d/b/a Hyatt Place and affiliated with the Hyatt Hotels Corporation (NYSE:[H](#)), to represent its shuttle bus drivers in Rosemont. Almost immediately after the election petition was filed, management retaliated and discriminated against these drivers by unilaterally and illegally laying off all shuttle drivers in an attempt to circumvent the law and avoid a union election. Undeterred by these actions, Local 727 remained steadfast and pressed onward with an election, obtaining a precedent-setting decision by Region 13 which allowed the drivers to vote. Refusing to back down to the anti-union pressure put on them by an employer who left them out in the cold during a worldwide pandemic, the shuttle drivers at Hyatt Place O'Hare voted unanimously to be represented by Teamsters Local 727. The bargaining unit was subsequently certified by Region 13 of the National Labor Relations Board in June of 2020.

In an act of pure disregard for its legal obligations, the Hyatt Place resumed shuttle operations and began assigning all shuttle work to non-bargaining unit employees and management without notice or bargaining with the Union. Upon notice of this, Teamsters Local 727 sprang into action, filing a total of 4 unfair labor practice charges. Shortly before the holidays, Region 13 found merit with the ULP filed over the Company's refusal to provide relevant information requested by the Union and required the Company to not only post notice of the members' rights under the National Relations Act, but also to mail the notice to each affected member. Recently, Region 13 again found merit with an additional ULP filed concerning Hyatt's unilateral changes to terms and conditions of employment. Region 13 of the National Labor Relations Board issued a complaint against Hyatt Place O'Hare for its anti-union actions. As a result of the mounting ULP charges piling up against the Hyatt, and the unrelenting efforts by 727 negotiators, the Hyatt finally caved and returned all shuttle drivers back to work in January, with backpay, pursuant to a return-to-work agreement which also builds in licensing and work schedule protections.

"I am proud of our new Union Brothers for staying strong over the past ten months while the Union fought at the Labor Board. Unfortunately, the Labor Board doesn't move as quickly as we would like, but some justice was achieved here," said Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. "I hope Hyatt has learned its lesson. This Union will not back down to corporate bullies and will deploy every legal tool it has when employers break the law."