



Together WE RISE

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JOIN UP: NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

On February 26, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Janus v. AFSCME*, a case that will weaken the rights of working people. In more than 600 actions nationwide, Labor Unions across America came together to declare that **#AmericaNeedsUnionJobs** —no court decision will hold us back! **#WeRise**



Members pose with CEO Riko Mendez during a lunchtime rally with labor and community allies on Feb. 26 in Fresno.



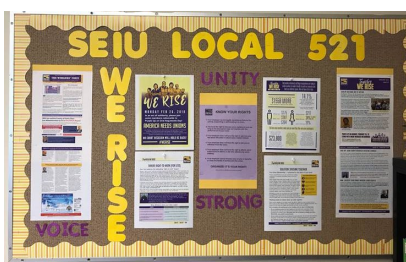
Members from the Santa Cruz Metro participate in a lunchtime rally at the Santa Cruz Courthouse.

SEIU Local 521 members from Bakersfield, Fresno, Redwood City, Salinas, San Jose, and Santa Cruz came together to stand up against Billionaire CEOs and the corporate giants behind the *Janus v. AFSCME* case—to learn more about what is at stake, visit www.seiu521.org/rtw



Mullissa Willette
SEIU Local 521 Secretary

“After Wisconsin passed anti-union Act 10 in 2011, workers like us lost their rights to stand together and negotiate wages, benefits and working conditions. And they lost a lot of money – now they pay thousands more out-of-pocket for pensions and health care and they aren’t getting the wage adjustments they used to. Wisconsin shows what can happen when Union workers lose their labor rights and their Unions. This is why I’m standing with my coworkers from Santa Clara County to defend our wages and benefits that we have fought so hard for.”



Congratulations to our February Bulletin Board Challenge Winners!

Visit www.seiu521.org/BB to download the latest Union flyers for your Bulletin Board!



RISE UP: HOW MUCH DO YOU VALUE YOUR WORK?

Sonia Chagollan has worked for the Kern County Department of Human Services for 27 years, but she didn't become involved in the union until Kern County's recent contract campaign in 2017; before that she was disengaged and unhappy with our union, despite a lifetime of involvement in the labor movement working with Cesar Chavez.



Sonia Chagollan is now a Kern County Bargaining Team Member and Chapter Officer.

"When it came time to bargain for a new contract, the county wanted us to start paying more for our benefits and I would take a huge pay-cut. And I'm a single parent. So I sat there and I thought, what have I done for myself? I always hear union news secondhand from someone else. So that's why I started going to union meetings. That was the turning point for me—I said, you know what, I've gotta take some responsibility for my worth. And that's what I tell my coworkers now: **What's your value? How much are you willing to fight for the value of your work?**"

WIN: RENEW YOUR UNION MEMBERSHIP!



Rose Marie Ruiz

Rose Marie Ruiz is a Health Services Representative at Valley Medical Center in Santa Clara County and the Shop Steward for her department. As a member leader, Rose Marie got **100% of her coworkers to renew their union membership**, including converting all fee-payers to full union-dues paying members. "Without our union, our wages would be low; we could lose our medical benefits, our retirement and our voice. As a leader, I am holding management accountable for my patients and my coworkers."

WHY SHOULD YOU RECOMMIT AND RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Recommitting to the union shows our employers that we're sticking together to protect our contract, win better pay and benefits, and make our voices heard. Corporate interests and extremist politicians want to weaken our union by passing laws to limit our rights and reduce our membership numbers. Our strength lies in our unity; if we lose our fellow members, then we lose power at work.

Now more than ever, we need to stand united against the attacks on working people. **When we recommit to our union and renew our membership, we are sending a strong message that we will not let anything stand in the way of our right to collectively bargain. Renew your membership today! www.seiu521.org/membership**



"Just as women across our nation are standing up to demand respect in workplaces and the public sphere so too are we bolstered in our fight to protect and strengthen unions."

-SEIU Members Alicia de la Garza and Sonia Chagollan