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COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 4:14:22 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 4:19:00 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:38
IP Address: 73.246.79.136

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Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Johnnie Dossie
Organization (if any):	SEIU Local 73
City/Town:	Chicago
State:	IL
ZIP:	60624

Q2

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

**County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting
6/18/2020 10a**

Q3

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

Respondent skipped this question

Q4

What do you want to do?

**DO NOT ATTEND THE MEETING and PROVIDE
WRITTEN COMMENT FOR INFORMATION ONLY (You
may add written comments below)**

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Hello, I'm Johnnie Dossie, a Health Advocate at Stroger Hospital. I'm no stranger to the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, I was one of the first SEIU Local 73 members confirmed with the virus. Unfortunately, Cook County was not proactive in protecting us. There was a lot of confusion regarding how to navigate pay, time off, and more. Cook County also didn't take into account the amount of time it requires to recover. I only received 10 days of pay during my recovery. That is not nearly enough. People are losing their lives, and each day we come into work we are putting our families at risk. Luckily, I've recovered from the virus. But what the experience taught me and my coworkers is that Cook County needs to do more to show that they care about us. We are not just numbers in a payroll sheet. We are human beings with families and friends. Even to this day, there are still concerns about the lack of PPE and exposure risk that we face on a daily basis. I have immuno-compromised family members who could have easily contracted the virus from me. I consider myself extremely lucky that this didn't occur and that I am still alive today. But that hasn't healed the emotional scars from my experience with COVID, and there's so much more that Cook County needs to do. We are understaffed, under-protected, and underpaid. As we fight for our lives during a global pandemic, we are also fighting for a new contract. How are we to trust management in the future if we don't trust them now?
