



**JNESO**

DISTRICT COUNCIL 1, IUOE / AFL-CIO  
*the professional health care union*

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For Immediate Release

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**JNESO and Virtua Meeting yields no changes in plans to eliminate and reassign nursing positions in Voorhees and Marlton**

North Brunswick, N.J. (July 03, 2019) – New Jersey State Senator Troy Singleton hosted a meeting on Friday between representatives from the Virtua Health Care System and JNESO District Council 1, the union that represents Virtua nurses, in an attempt to resolve issues surrounding a new staffing plan that would eliminate and reassign nursing positions.

Senator Singleton encouraged both sides to communicate but there was no resolution. Virtua continues to refuse to abide by the mutually agreed upon collective bargaining agreement and will implement the new staffing plan on August 1, 2019. The plan will eliminate 28 positions and reassign dozens of nurses serving on the Medical/Surgical Floors and Surgical Services Units at both the Voorhees and Marlton facilities.

JNESO states that Virtua is operating outside of their contract with the Union, meeting with nurses to discuss the proposed staffing changes without a union representative present (which is required by law). Virtua also refuses to take into consideration seniority, hours or schedules of the individual nurses when offering reassigned shifts which is required under the contract.

JNESO has already filed numerous grievances and Unfair Labor Practices with the National Labor Relations Board.

The new plan was announced without any warning or discussion. “The nurses are stunned and extremely concerned about the possibility of losing their positions,” said Douglas Placa, Executive Director of JNESO, the union that serves and protects more than 1,600 nurses in the Virtua System. “We have been holding emergency meetings to try and help educate members about their rights under the contract. Unfortunately, these changes will be extremely disruptive to our nurses’ lives and could impact the continuity of care for patients.”

He added, “JNESO will continue to fight for the rights of our nurses and their patients.”

JNESO District Council 1 is a healthcare union representing more than 5,000 nurses and other healthcare workers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. For more information, visit <http://www.jneso.org/>

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