

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

THERESA RIFFEY, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

No.: 10-cv-02477

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER,
in his official capacity as Governor of
the State of Illinois; and SEIU
HEALTHCARE ILLINOIS & INDIANA,

Judge: Honorable Manish S. Shah

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF SHERYL JONES

Sheryl Jones hereby declares as follows:

1. I am a home care worker in the State of Illinois' Home Services Program. I am 63 years old and live in Chicago, Illinois.
2. I have been working in the Home Services Program since about 2012. I have provided care for the same client since I started. The types of care that I provide range from assisting with mobility around the house, bathing, grooming, preparing meals, accompanying her to doctors' appointments, shopping, to doing laundry and light housekeeping.
3. When I began working in the Home Services Program, the State automatically deducted fair-share fees from my wages to support my union representative, SEIU Healthcare Illinois & Indiana ("Union"). I did not pay much attention to the fair-share fees, I assumed it was a deduction just like State and Federal income tax deductions. I had no objection to providing financial support for the Union. When I learned what the fees were for, I felt they were beneficial to me. I believe that a strong union representative is necessary if home care

workers are to be treated with the dignity and respect that we deserve. I believe that all home care workers should pay their fair share to support the Union because all home care workers benefit from the Union's activities.

4. Our current Union contract provides for pay of \$13/hour for home care workers and for the State to pay into a health benefits fund and for training. I have taken all of the classes, and I found them to be very helpful, especially learning how to lift and turn clients safely. I do not believe that home care workers would have achieved this without a strong Union or that we will be able to continue to improve the status of home care workers without a strong Union.

5. In addition to the benefits of the contract, as a member, I have been able to participate in Union internships where I have developed organizing skills and have been able to talk to other home care workers about the importance of being a part of the Union. It gave me the opportunity to use and develop my communication skills that I learned in my previous career in retail, and build skills in being able to talk to all different kinds of people. The Union helped me develop my leadership skills by giving me the chance to go out in the field, meet people, help educate them about the Union and all it had to offer, and develop lasting relationships with other home care workers.

6. Before I joined the Union, I voted, but was not actively involved or aware of political issues. One of the best benefits of joining the Union has been the opportunity to meet many different home care workers and learn about their experiences and be able to bring those experiences to local and State legislators. I have been able to participate in many political campaigns, and have learned a lot about the political process and the part that unions play in

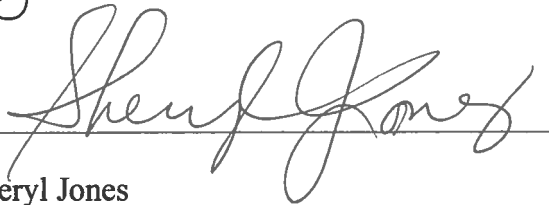
making people aware of issues affecting home care workers, and broader issues that affect working people.

7. When I first started working in the Home Services Program I was not familiar with everything our Union does and with the importance of becoming a Union member. I first learned about the Union in about May 2012 when I attended an in-service training where a member volunteer named Reggie talked to me about the benefits of being a full member of the Union. At first, I thought paying the fair share fee meant that I was a member, but Reggie explained to me all of the benefits and opportunities that come along with signing a Union card, and the limitations of only being a fee-payer. I signed a card right then, and have remained an active member ever since.

8. I do not support the Harris v. Quinn lawsuit or the goal of the National Right to Work Legal Defense Fund to weaken our Union. The named plaintiffs do not speak for me, and they do not represent me. I do not think I need to get anything back, I believe that I have benefitted from paying fees in terms of the benefits in our contracts and being able to participate in the Union.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 30th day of July 2015.



Sheryl Jones