THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MARNI VON WILPERT

COUNCILMEMBER • FIFTH DISTRICT

June 21, 2024

Christopher D. Howard
President and Chief Executive Officer
Sharp HealthCare
chris.howard@sharp.com
8695 Spectrum Center Blvd
San Diego, CA 92123

Trisha Khalegi
SVP Market CEO
Sharp HealthCare
trisha.khalegi@sharp.com
8695 Spectrum Center Blvd
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr. Howard and Ms. Khalegi,

I am writing to you today to thank Sharp and all Sharp healthcare employees for the excellent healthcare you provide to our San Diego community. I am also writing to express my support for the healthcare workers at Sharp Metropolitan Campus in their efforts to join their fellow Sharp workers in the SEIU United Healthcare Workers West union.

San Diego thrives on a strong workforce, and our healthcare providers are at the heart of ensuring the well-being of our community. It is crucial that these essential workers have a voice in shaping their working conditions and advocating for solutions to the patient care crisis.

The right to unionize is a fundamental right protected under the National Labor Relations Act. Indeed, section (8)(a) of that Act prohibits unfair labor practices, which in addition to being unlawful also undermine the collaborative spirit needed to address the workforce challenges faced by our healthcare system.

Sharp Metropolitan Campus has a responsibility to its employees and the community to create a fair and respectful environment for open dialogue. While Sharp workers exercise their federal rights to organize, join, or form a union, I urge Sharp to work collaboratively with your employees and engage in good-faith negotiations with SEIU representatives to find solutions to improve staffing levels, patient care, and overall working conditions.

Our healthcare system is at a crossroads, and strong collaboration is essential to overcome staffing shortages and ensure quality patient care. By respecting your employees' right to

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unionize and working together to solve problems, Sharp Metropolitan Campus can build a stronger future for its workforce and for the San Diego community.

Sincerely,

Marni von Wilpert
San Diego City Councilmember, District 5

CC: Brett McClain, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
(brett.mcclain@sharp.com)

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