



LOCKOUT NEWS

23 JULY 2007
DAY 9

THE LOCKOUT IS ILLEGAL!

A huge victory for union members came today from the Employment Court, where the judge ruled that the lockout by Spotless is unlawful.

This win means that Spotless was in the wrong when they locked workers out for 'Health and Safety' reasons. Spotless has said publicly that "The standard of service and the standard of the cleaning, particularly health and safety aspects, are totally in control," Union members have been saying "Yeah Right!"

'Health and Safety' was the excuse Spotless used to start the lockouts. But members from Waitkere Hospital got hold of photos over the weekend, and they told a very different story about Spotless' concerns for health and safety.

The photos from inside the hospital (which were shown on One News on Saturday night) show bags of waste and linen stacked in rooms, rubbish bins overflowing and patient files dumped on mailroom floors.

The photos show that Spotless is struggling to manage without the skills and experience of union members.

"Without us, the ones who know the job and have the skills and experience - things will fall apart," said one experienced union delegate. "And it's the patients and other staff who will suffer, not Spotless bosses - they're in Australia!"



Top: Rubbish stacked in the back room
Middle: The mailroom overflowing.
Bottom: Rubbish jammed against the back door.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LOCKOUT SITES

KAITAIA

"We're getting really mad and we're standing strong."

WHANGAREI

Paul Charmers & Golden Bay Cement workers each donated \$500. Members got another \$125 from the public.

NORTH SHORE (AKL)

Delegates visited MUNZ AGM and the Employment Court.

WAITAKERE (AKL)

Members carpoled into the city to sit-in on the Employment Court case and collect donations in Queen St.

MIDDLEMORE (AKL)

Delegates went to MUNZ AGM and the Employment Court Case, while picket and BBQ were held on site.

TAURANGA

NZNO members are signing a petition calling on the local DHB to sort out the situation with Spotless.

ROTORUA

Members canvassed the main street for donations and raised over \$135. on Sunday they held a picnic and got a visit from Regional Secretary Jill Ovens.

GISBORNE

Members and their whanau had a BBQ on Saturday, and went back to the picket line. DHB members visited the picket & members have set up a meeting with their DHB tomorrow.

WANGANUI

Spent the weekend visiting the homes of DHB members to picket. Got media attention for thier 'harassment' of the bosses.

HASTINGS

Are going to get a visit from Palm Nth members this week and hopefully a break from the rain

PALMERSTON NTH

On the weekend members visited DHB heads to picket their homes.

INVERCARGILL

Mayor Tim Shadbolt is organising a charity concert for locked out workers.

SFWU
Ngā Ringa Tota

Check the website for video and news links daily

WWW.SFWU.ORG