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Unit One: Discourse Community.

Recipient: Moutaz Bouhchicha

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Dear Recipient:

First paragraph:

As nurses it is our main duty, to protect and serve the ill. But in situations like this, who will protect us? How about the many few of us who came forth when there was a staff shortage and never wanted to step down? Was all the media foolishness only for show? Calling us heroes and somehow we are the villains now twelve months later. I remember everyone clapping outside their windows for us daily at a certain time. For a real reason. May I remind you and your fellow staff for that reason.

Second paragraph:

My team and I were on the frontlines during the worst years of the decade. We were overworked for long hours daily. We would be on our feet for more than twelve hours without much nutrition to get us through the day. We witnessed things that were traumatizing and scary. Some of us are mothers, fathers, wives and husbands. Even as adult professionals we had to learn how to create a healthy balance between work and home from square one. This alone took us one

year to adapt. The problem we are now facing is like getting stabbed in our backs by not only our fellow colleagues whom we have worked decades with, but the government as well. This is a cry for help.

Third paragraph:

Isn't it your job to gain our trust rather than working to gain our fear. We are a group that studies medicine. We first hand witness what goes on inside the medical rooms. Things that you and your fellow friends will never see nor know. We are well aware of the decisions that we are making and the consequences that we are up against us. Yet, we hold our ground. We firmly believe in what we are fighting against. Our constitution and our bill of rights allow me to stand up for myself and my fellow staff members. The decision that you have made is one hundred percent unconstitutional. This nation grants us the right to fight for your freedom. The right to be heard and not misled by a crowd of sheep. All we are asking for is unity within our departments. In exchange for our years of loyalty and dedication to the nation you represent.

Fourth paragraph:

Can you place yourselves in the shoes of an employee who gave twenty years plus of their life working in a hospital risking theirs. And in a blink of an eye they are replaced because of an unconstitutional decision you made. This is the prime example of why you should never give too much passion and worth ethic to your job. The example that this is setting for future nurses is tragic. Giving too much never pays off for the person who is actually breaking their backs. Only for those who sit at the top of the pyramid and care more about the money being made.

Fifth paragraph:

What do we do now? Do we sit back jobless? How will I feed my children? How will any of us bounce back from the trauma our nation has set us up for? My friends from work and I still visit our weekly therapist to keep sane in our households. Therapists that we shouldn't even have to pay for, but the majority do and it's not cheap. Not going is definitely not an option because before we are nurses we are someone's special somebody at heart.

You probably do not care about anything I am saying right now. But hypothetically speaking god forbid, there is another global pandemic. Now what? Are you going to rehire everyone you laid off because of the decision you made? What if we all decided not to come in and help out? Then what , Who are your heroes then?

Conclusion:

One of the biggest problems we regularly face on a day to day basis is being understaffed. You know why? Because being a nurse is hard. Working consecutive twelve hour shirts, and in tough situations sometimes having absolutely no break is mentally draining. Instead of protecting the many dedicated and few individuals willing to lend out a hand even in the toughest circumstances, as a nation that is at a loss and as a leader you have failed to lead.

Sincerely, A Fellow Hero.

Aimen Souchane.