



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Bruce Cummings, CEO
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital
365 Montauk Ave
New London, CT 06320

October 17, 2013

Dear Mr. Cummings,

I am writing to express my deep concerns about the current healthcare, employment, and community service practices at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital and its related entities.

Connecticut's hospitals play a pivotal role in our communities and are often center stage for life's defining moments. As large employers, hospitals also have a tremendous role and impact on their regional economies. And, as the recipients of significant state and federal dollars, hospitals (whether non-profit or for-profit) are also responsible to taxpayers.

For these reasons, I hold each of Connecticut's hospitals to the highest standards of ethical and economic standards. After hearing from your healthcare workers and service employees, and in light of the decision by the National Labor Relations Board to file a formal complaint against you, I believe there are several serious areas of concern that deserve a response.

First, the transfer of L&M positions covered by collective bargaining agreements to newly-created L&M owned-and-operated entities with no union representation appears to be a legal maneuver designed to avoid providing the wage rates and health insurance agreed to in existing union contracts.

Second, the 44 employees laid off to date by L&M were not offered positions at the newly-created LMPA and LMG. If the services and jobs are identical, it would follow that experienced employees would be offered employment.

Third, given the projected costs of \$1.8 million per day, I would expect L&M to take every possible step toward securing a labor agreement *before* the existing contract expires in November 2013. Contacting town officials before contract negotiations had begun to discuss the use of replacement workers in the event of a strike clearly runs counter to that concept.

Fourth, there are approximately 180 positions in your L&M cafeteria and environmental services departments currently covered by collective bargaining agreements. Those employees deserve to know if they are at risk of elimination.

I look forward to your response and explanation for each of the concerns I've outlined.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dannel P. Malloy". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "M".

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor