

# DO THE MATH

- ⇒ On Dec. 1, the owner of 875 E. Wisconsin, Wangard Partners, replaced 12 janitors with new janitors and a new cleaning company.
- ⇒ Although a number of the janitors had cleaned the building since it opened 10 years ago, Wangard claims this decision was made due to quality of work, and had nothing to do with cost.



## DECIDE FOR YOURSELF

UNION JANITOR COMPENSATION	WANGARD'S NEW JANITORS
\$11.00 PER HOUR W/ HEALTH CARE	\$8.50 PER HOUR W/ NO BENEFITS



## YOU CAN HELP

Please call Stewart Wangard at (414) 322-5022 and tell him that eliminating decent paying jobs in Downtown Milwaukee is not the way we build prosperity in our city.

The vast majority of major office buildings Downtown are cleaned by responsible cleaners that use union janitors.

**Jobs with good wages and good benefits are good for Milwaukee!**



Stewart Wangard  
President/CEO  
Wangard Partners  
1200 N. Mayfair Road, Ste. 220  
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Dear Mr. Wangard,

As you may be aware, your building property manager at 875 East Wisconsin Ave., Daniel Crowe, has decided to change cleaning contractors. As a result the ten janitors who worked hard to keep your building clean, safe and comfortable will lose their jobs at close of business Wednesday, Nov. 30. A number of these janitors have cleaned your building since it first opened nearly ten years ago.

The union has reached out to Mr. Crowe, and has asked him to use a responsible contractor who would keep the current staff and their modest wage and benefit package. Mr. Crowe has refused, and insists on employing an irresponsible cleaning contractor that will pay poverty wages and little or no benefits.

SEIU Local 1 has been a positive force in promoting the growth and development of downtown Milwaukee. We want to continue to work with the real estate community to not only build a thriving downtown but to insure that the jobs that are created provide a liveable wage for the men and women of Milwaukee.

Please urge Mr. Crowe to follow the example set by many of the leading building owners downtown who employ union cleaning companies that respect janitors and the important work that they do.

Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter Hanrahan  
Director SEIU Local 1-Wisconsin  
Building Services Division

THOMAS BALANOFF  
President

CHRIS ANDERSEN  
Secretary-Treasurer

VICE PRESIDENTS  
RODERICK S. BASHIR  
JOSE BERNAL  
CHARLES BRIDGEMON  
NANCY E. CROSS  
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Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414.223.0090  
Fax: 414.223.0094

**Main Office**  
111 East Wacker  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312.240.1600  
Fax: 312.233.8849



Jan. 19, 2012

Mayor Tom Barrett  
City Hall, 200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett,

It has come to my attention that you are in receipt of a Jan. 9 letter to Mayor Barrett and Aldermen from Stewart Wangard, owner of Wangard Partners and 875 E. Wisconsin Avenue. I would like this opportunity to respond to that letter.

Mr. Wangard simply misses the point about the situation at 875 E. Wisconsin Ave. For the past 20 years, SEIU Local 1 and union contractors have established a system that protects workers when building owners change contractors. This system has allowed workers to remain in their buildings at the same rate of pay and benefits with the new contractor.

In fact, one of the janitors who lost her job, Bessie Hervey, had cleaned 875 East for three different companies during her ten years working there. That ended Dec. 1 when Wangard refused to use a new union contractor, instead hiring a nonunion contractor with a completely new staff, being paid poverty wages with little or no benefits.

Mr. Wangard's claim that he chose the new cleaning contractor based on anything but getting the lowest price is highly doubtful. He could've clearly laid out his specifications and expectations to any one of a number of responsible union contractors who perform industry-leading work. Wangard's decision was primarily about squeezing work out of janitors for as little money as possible.

Mr. Wangard's actions not only ruined the lives of 12 workers, he chose a direction that is contrary to how major property owners Downtown have done business for the past twenty years. Mr. Wangard's actions send a message to all owners that it's acceptable to return to 1991 when hiring the lowest bidder with no concern for workers was common practice.

Mr. Wangard's actions are not tolerable in Downtown Milwaukee, where business and labor have been partners toward prosperity, working together to create good, family-supporting jobs. We would like the opportunity to meet with you and discuss this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Peter Hanrahan  
Vice President SEIU Local 1-Wisconsin

THOMAS BALANOFF  
President

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Dear Councilman Perez:

My name is Susanna Fernandez and I live at 2447 S 19th Street. I am writing to you as a constituent regarding my employment at 875 E. Wisconsin as a janitor for Purity Janitorial.

I began working at 875 in December. I was honored and glad to have found work and I took my work seriously as a janitor. My starting pay was \$8.50 and after my probation I along with my fellow co-workers was told we could be eligible for a raise and benefits.

When the probation period ended, I along with my co-workers asked about our raise and benefits including having health care benefits we were told were to be available. After speaking up we got the raise but health care was not made available.

Shortly after we received a raise I along with five other Latino janitors were fired. I wanted to bring what happened to us to your attention so that the building owner knows that there may be a revolving door of janitors who speak up about their benefits and that is not good for Milwaukee. All we wanted was respect and dignity for the work we did.

Thank you.

Sincerely

*Susanna Fernandez*

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