Omicron is here in New York, and NYSNA members are actively organizing to demand safe workplaces. New York must learn from past COVID-19 surges, and the hospitals must be held accountable. NYSNA is fighting on many fronts to protect all healthcare workers.

**NYSNA Issues Statewide Demand for OSHA COVID-19 Logs**

For nearly two years now, NYSNA employers have hidden information on who and how many workers got exposed to and sick from SARS-CoV-2/COVID — often not even telling staff of exposure incidents in real time. They are now required to log this information. And because we have a union, we have a right to get this information. We are demanding logs from all NYSNA employers.

**NYSNA Files Federal Lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Labor and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) with AFL-CIO, NNU, AFT, and AFSCME**


**New York State Needs to Back Us Up**

Ratios for ICUs, as well as med surg and EDs, must be enacted immediately. Omicron is flooding hospitals, other variants may soon be in the mix as well, and, as of the time of this publication, the full wave of hospitalizations has yet to come. We call on Governor Hochul to enact the 1:2 ICU ratio and other protective ratios now. The governor has also announced the allocation of huge sums of money to healthcare to deal with the ongoing crisis. In 2022 we demand that these funds be applied where they will have the most impact — baseline patient care, safe staffing and safe levels of PPE.
NYSNA Omicron Bargaining Demands Launched Across New York
NYSNA members are submitting demands at every hospital in New York. They include:

- Sufficient N95s and other PPE for conventional use by all patient-facing staff for all patient interactions.
- Enhanced ventilation and other controls.
- Safe staffing.
- Proper triage and cohorting of patients.
- Testing, quarantine and isolation for healthcare workers.

Read and share the full demands at https://bit.ly/omicronDemands

Actions and Town Halls, More to Come
NYSNA held multiple worksite actions and speak outs in the last month, bringing member’s voices directly to the media and the public. NYSNA’s statewide Omicron Crisis Town Hall on Dec. 30 had over 1,000 members attend. Town halls and actions will continue throughout January and February. Watch for updates and contact your NYSNA representative to get involved.

COVID Stories are Essential
Nurses and healthcare workers are the most trusted professions in the US. The truth about COVID, patient care and for-profit hospitals must be told by NYNSA members. Join the thousands of members who have recorded their stories to add to this fight today by writing a diary entry about your latest shift: www.nysna.org/covid-diary and back it up with a POA.

Recognition, Crisis and Retention Pay for All NYSNA Members
NYSNA demands that the State and all hospitals start, or restart crisis/recognition pay for members immediately. Additionally, the state and hospitals need to fund retention pay programs to keep the best healthcare workers in NY

NYSNA Challenges CDC Over Continued Back-peddling on Recovery and Return to work
NYSNA has protested the CDC’s recent protocol shift on when it is safe for exposed and sick staff to return to work, demanding adequate time (more than five days) and mandatory testing (obtaining a negative test) for return to work.

For all the most up-to-date information during this Omicron surge, please visit our designated page at https://www.nysna.org/omicron