

THE NEW YORKER UNION

Senator Elizabeth Warren and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Refuse to Cross the New Yorker Union's Picket Line Over Just Cause

The New Yorker Union will hold an informational picket on Monday, October 5th, at 8 P.M. ET, to spotlight unfair labor practices at *The New Yorker* and to demand just cause in our first collective-bargaining agreement. The picket coincides with a New Yorker Festival event featuring Senator Elizabeth Warren and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. **Warren and Ocasio-Cortez have agreed not to cross the picket line, and to withdraw their participation in the New Yorker Festival, until just cause is guaranteed at *The New Yorker*.**

Warren and Ocasio-Cortez have been invited to participate in a New Yorker Festival event to discuss the future of progressivism. As they have both been informed, ***The New Yorker* is currently the site of a major labor dispute.** After nearly two years of bargaining over the union's first contract, *New Yorker* and Condé Nast management, including David Remnick himself, refuse to agree to just cause—a basic labor protection that prevents workers from being unfairly fired or disciplined.

Just cause is an essential labor standard that guarantees due process, promotes fairness and accountability, and creates consistent, transparent standards in the workplace. It provides workers recourse, protecting them from managers' whims and biases and **empowering them to speak up about things like salary disparities and editorial missteps without fear of retaliation.** This is an especially crucial protection for workers at Condé Nast, which has recently faced a public reckoning over [hostile work environments](#) at multiple magazines and a [failure to fairly compensate](#) employees of color.

For the past two years, we have been pushing to change a workplace where performance standards and their enforcement are highly subjective. **In that time, management has insisted on maintaining total, unchallenged discretion to discipline or fire employees for anything at any time.** They've tried to paint our concerns about job security as unrealistic, but we know [the reality of our own workplace](#). *New Yorker* management has an opportunity to lead on workers' rights, but instead they are **seeking to preserve a system of at-will employment that enshrines a culture of secrecy and control.**

Union members make the New Yorker Festival possible. They make the magazine, Web site, and newsletters possible. Union members understand the power and importance of the festival's platform, especially in an election year. The New Yorker Union and the NewsGuild of New York thank Senator Warren and Representative Ocasio-Cortez for standing in solidarity with us and workers everywhere.

We invite union members and supporters to [join our digital informational picket line](#) on **Monday, October 5, at 8 P.M.** For updates, [follow the union on Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).