



August 26, 2025

## **Solidarity with Katherine Grzejszczak**

OPSEU/SEFPO represents over 180,000 workers across the province of Ontario, and we have a duty as trade unionists to safeguard the right of *all* workers to exercise their freedom of expression. Freedom of expression and freedom of association are fundamental rights for trade unions. In Canada, these are Charter-protected rights.

The firing of CUPE 4900 member Katherine Grzejszczak, a frontline paramedic worker, on June 20, 2025, appears to stem from a personal social media post in which she voiced principled opposition to the ongoing and well-documented atrocities committed by the Israeli government against Palestinians. This is a stance that is shared by many major unions, health care workers, and our own federal government, which has termed the situation in Gaza a “violation of international law.”

For any employer to target, harass and terminate any worker on the basis on their personal opinion is a profound infringement on all workers’ Charter-protected right to freedom of expression. This sets a dangerous precedent to censor and suppress workers who express solidarity with Palestine, or indeed, any worker who takes a public position on any other issue that their employer may not share.

We deplore the treatment that Ms. Grzejszczak has received and stand in solidarity with her and with all workers who experience such unethical and illegal treatment at the hands of their employers.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "JP", is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

JP Hornick  
President, OPSEU/SEFPO