From the Desk of Gene Hollenbeck

Executive Vice-President

Please remember to wear your mask, wash your hands and social distance where you can. This pandemic is not over by a long shot and we need to do whatever we can to help lower the curve. Please be safe at work and outside of work. We need all of you to keep this Service working for the American people.

Don’t forget to write your Congressman/woman, and your Senators. Let them know that the Service is still a vital service.

We welcome our one hundred thirteen (113) new career employees effective July 31, 2021. With that we will be getting another eighty (80) PSE employees, which should help with the one to a machine issues that we have been experiencing.

So that our new career employees understand the holiday schedule procedure I have decided to rerun one my old articles. This is the procedure that management must follow when bringing employees in during the Holiday schedule. The Holiday schedule is a three (3) day schedule and must be posted per the contract.

Let’s talk about holidays and how you are scheduled. The holiday scheduled must be posted on Tuesday of the week preceding the week in which the holiday falls. The holiday schedule consists of three days. So for a Monday holiday the schedule would be Saturday, Sunday and Monday. On Tour 1 this would be Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday night. If your off days are Sunday-Monday, your designated holiday would be Saturday. If your off days are Monday-Tuesday, then your holiday would be Sunday. On tour 1 if your off days are Saturday night (Sunday)-Sunday night (Monday), your designated holiday would be Friday night (Saturday). If your off days are Sunday night (Monday) – Monday night (Tuesday), your holiday would be Saturday night (Sunday). The holiday volunteer list shall be posted soliciting volunteers to work the days of the holiday schedule. This volunteer list will be posted 21 days prior to the Tuesday that the holiday schedule must be posted. The volunteer list will be posted for 14 calendar days.

APWU employees will be scheduled for holiday work in the following order:

1. All full-time and part-time regular (where applicable) employees for whom it is a holiday or their “designated holiday,” and who have volunteered to work, by seniority;

2. All full time and part-time regular (where applicable) employees, by seniority, who have volunteered to work their non-scheduled day(s) which is a holiday or “designated holiday” for others even if overtime and/or overtime guarantees are incurred;

3. All postal support employees;

4. All full-time and part-time regular (where applicable) employees for whom it is a scheduled day off, but have not volunteered, even if overtime guarantees are incurred, shall be instructed to report by inverse seniority;

5. All full-time and part-time (where applicable) employees for whom it is the holiday or their designated holiday but have not volunteered shall be instructed to report by inverse seniority.

This is the way management selects who works on the holiday. This is done for all holidays and, yes, the junior employees may be drafted for every holiday.

Don’t forget, if you work the holiday, you can decide if you want the pay or if you want to exchange it for annual leave that you can use at a later date. There are several employees that use this option for additional time off at a later date.