

Brothers and Sisters,

On January 15 I was informed that local management would not count our MHA's when calculating Prime Time leave quotas and these employees will be denied participation in the selection process. After a week of negotiating and appealing to management to abide by the current LMOU, management informed me today that it plans to move forward with the prime time selection process without MHA's. Not including MHA's when calculating quotas will lead to a reduction in leave slots available to Tours 1 and 3. This denial of benefit to our MHA Brothers and Sisters is not only an attack on MHA's, it is also evidence of managements disregard for all employees. This same situation occurred last year and the Union responded with a strong contractual argument and was able to attain a positive settlement through the grievance procedure. The Union will make those arguments once again, but in the meantime I ask that each of you assist the Union by doing the following:

MHA's—Do not let Management deny you the opportunity to apply for Prime Time leave. Submit your requests for leave in writing, and if denied, inform your steward.

FTR's—If you are denied Prime Time leave for “Quota Full” or if an MHA is approved leave and you are denied, inform your steward immediately.

I will see that each and every instance of denial of Prime Time Leave is grieved. If management wants to open up this circus, I'm gonna open up all three rings. While Management has taken the position that you are not entitled to vacation with your family this summer, you can be sure that they will spend plenty of vacation time on the beach, fishing, or just sitting around the house reading the latest version of “Postal Management for Dummies”.

In Solidarity,

Shelby