



SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 6

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Tom Owens
General Chairman

Shannon Spotswood
Vice Chairman

Mike Stacks
Secretary-Treasurer

General Chairman's Report – April, 2021

Brothers and Sisters:

PLB 5332: Our board has been funded. The arbitration date will be July 28, 2021. We have 18 cases listed with the board. 189 Conway – sleeping; 190 Conway – improper performance rail camera; 191 Decatur – blue flag; 192 Decatur – false statements in investigation; 193 Atlanta – sleeping; 194 Juniata – felony charges off duty for theft, controlled substance; 195 Juniata – excessive absenteeism; 196 Juniata – felony charges unlawful restraint, threats; 197 Atlanta – failure to protect assignment; 198 Norfolk – derail, failure to follow instructions; 199 Juniata – cell phone; 200 Bellevue – abandoning assignment, falsifying payroll; 201 Chicago – abandoning assignment; 202 Bellevue – failure to run departure test, falsifying document; 203 Bellevue – failure to complete camera modification, falsifying document; 204 Decatur – absenteeism, false statements; 205 Chattanooga – repetitive disregard PPE, fall protection; 206 Kansas City – improper performance of duty

National Negotiations: On April 28 & 29, the meetings were held by virtual platform. Essentially, the Carriers took the position all of our requests were “economically unsustainable.” Discussions moved to addressing the potential to resume in person meetings as well as the formation of subcommittees around individual issues to possible move the process along.

Active Claims: In addition to normal calls and information requests, the Council continued to handle a total of 83 active cases. Any issue that involves disciplines/claims advanced to the Council, letter responses, medical delay documentation, RRB benefit issues, health insurance issues, etc., generate a case file with the Council.

National Health & Welfare Claims: As part of the national negotiations' efforts, a lawsuit was filed against the Carriers for their attempt to force members to switch health providers yearly based on cost through an “administrative” decision as opposed to a negotiated right. The lawsuit was dismissed by the courts as a matter to be handled under the grievance process. In a coordinated effort across the country among the Organizations, I have filed a claim for each agreement that our members are represented under the System Council 6 umbrella. The unified efforts of all the organizations resulted in the Carrier's agreeing to a settlement process to be implemented to address the issue.

Holiday & Vacation: I was out of office for Good Friday. I took 3 days' vacation for family illness.

Travel: One day travel to DreamMore Resort for convention walk-thru with facility personnel.

System Council 6 Convention: By-law proposals were sent to our local unions. The convention is scheduled for June 8 & 9, 2021 at DreamMore Resort (Dollywood), Pigeon Forge, TN. Currently, it appears 16 of our 19 delegates will be in attendance. Our insurance representatives are trending to only appear virtually. A large portion of office time was spent this month in preparation for the Convention.

In Your Service,

Tom Owens
General Chairman