



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 – August, 2021

Brothers and Sisters:

Furloughs: Working in conjunction with the IBEW Railroad Department, I have submitted a total audit of the impact of PSR on our membership. Our data, along with the numbers from other System Councils in the country, is being compiled to present to the Surface Transportation Board. The presentation is to highlight the dangers of PSR in maintaining a safely maintained locomotive fleet with deficient numbers of employees.

PLB 5332: Arbitrator Parker has not published her decision as of this date regarding our cases.

National Negotiations: The August 10-11 meeting was held in Cleveland, Ohio. The focus of discussion was operating rules. The major outcome was the formation of subcommittees to separate the issue of rules between two groups – operating crafts and non-operating crafts.

Active Claims: Twenty-one new cases were opened this month. In addition to normal calls and information requests, the Council continued to handle a total of 45 previous active cases, for a total of 66 current 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.

Qualification Issues: We continue to have issues with the Carrier assigning qualifications or licenses to positions. Additionally, as an Organization, our membership struggles with how qualifications affect seniority. I have met with Labor Relations to address the issues of clarity and consistency in dealing with qualifications. I am awaiting a response from management at Juniata regarding the problems at this specific location.

ADA Case: Working in conjunction with one of our approved FELA attorneys, I submitted a request for a reasonable accommodation to be made for one of our members who stood to be called back from furlough but a job qualification was directly related to his condition. The Carrier has approached our member in an apparent attempt to make some type of accommodation.

Appointment: SC #9 General Chairman J. J. Giuliano has been appointed as an International Representative assigned to the Railroad Department. It is anticipated that I will take on the majority of representation for System Council #9 in addition to the current representation of System Council #6. I have yet to be notified of an effective date for the transition.

Travel: Three-day travel to Cleveland, Ohio for Nationals.

In Your Service,

Tom Owens
General Chairman