



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Central Office Human Resources Services (05HRS)
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Suite 180
Washington, DC 20420

February 26, 2013

Attn: Melissa Best
Labor Management Relations

Subj: Washington Examiner 11-27-2012 FOIA Request of employees serving as full-time "official time" personnel.

This response pertains to AFGE Local 17 Personnel only, as COHRS ER-LR has been charged with tracking Local 17 OT only. AFGE Local 17 provides union representation for Stations 101,103, 116, 705, 776 and 777. This response accounts for the period of March 2011 to present (there were no known tracking mechanisms for VACO official time prior to then).

Only known official time database is tracked by LMR. Information related to this FOIA request for American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 17 employees are provided below as follows:

Name: William Preston-1276 Professional Unit
Agency: DVA-Board of Veteran Appeals
Union: American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
Local: Local 17
Position: Local 17 President
100% OT: Unknown-January 29, 2012
Present and Past Position/OCC from Jan 20, 2012 to Present: ATTY-ADVISER (VETERANS); OCC: 0905

Annual Salary/Performance Award/Bonuses/Incentive Awards/Merit Pay/Allowances and Differentials since Jan 20, 2012:

Grade/Step GS 14/3, Annual Salary \$112, 224.00 (effective Jan 15, 2012);

Grade/Step GS 14/4, Annual Salary \$115, 731.00 (effective Jan 13, 2013);

No other awards, bonuses, allowances or differential pay.

Past/Present Duty Stations and Location Identifiers:

Duty Station/Location/Org Code:101/Washington DC/1105-0100

Name: Duane Anderson-1272 General Unit
Agency: DVA-DIRECTOR PROG&PORTFOLIO MGMT
Union: American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
Local: Local 17
Position: Local 17 Chief Steward
100% OT: Unknown-January 29, 2012
Present and Past Position/OCC from Jan 20, 2012 to Present: IT Specialist; OCC: 2210
Annual Salary/Performance Award/Bonuses/Incentive Awards/Merit Pay/Allowances and Differentials since Jan 20, 2012:
Grade/Step GS 13/10, Annual Salary \$115,742.00.

Unable to verify other awards, bonuses, allowances or differential pay due to systems realignment.

Past/Present Duty Stations and Location Identifiers:

Duty Station/Location/Org Code:101/Washington DC/1904-4000

Name: Douglas Massey-1276 Professional Unit
Agency: DVA-Board of Veteran Appeals
Union: American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
Local: Local 17
Position: Local 17 Steward
100% OT: January 29, 2012-Present

Present and Past Position/OCC from Jan 20, 2012 to Present: ATTY-ADVISER (VETERANS); OCC: 0905

Annual Salary/Performance Award/Bonuses/Incentive Awards/Merit Pay/Allowances and Differentials since Jan 20, 2012:

Grade/Step GS 14/7, Annual Salary \$126, 251.00 (effective Jan 2, 2011);
No other awards, bonuses, allowances or differential pay.

Past/Present Duty Stations and Location Identifiers:

Duty Station/Location/Org Code:101/Washington DC/1105-0100

Name: Jennifer Schingle-1276 Professional Unit
Agency: DVA-Board of Veteran Appeals
Union: American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
Local: Local 17
Position: Local 17 Treasurer
100% OT: Unknown-Present (Note: this is from a portion Local OT under Art 48 Sec 10A and a transfer from District Rep William Wetmore)

Present and Past Position/OCC from Jan 20, 2012 to Present: ATTY-ADVISER (VETERANS); OCC: 0905

Annual Salary/Performance Award/Bonuses/Incentive Awards/Merit Pay/Allowances and Differentials since Jan 20, 2012:

Grade/Step GS 13/1, Annual Salary \$89,033.00 (effective Aug 14, 2011);
Grade/Step GS 13/2, Annual Salary \$92,001.00 (effective Aug 12, 2012); No other awards, bonuses, allowances or differential pay.

Past/Present Duty Stations and Location Identifiers:

Duty Station/Location/Org Code:101/Washington DC/1105-0100

Other Local 17 stewards to be verified by DVA LMR: William Wetmore and William Jefferson, (100% National/District Time but also serve in a Local 17 Steward capacity).

At present the IFCAP Time and Attendance System does not have unique payroll codes to account for official time, and the agency has had to depend on rough tracking methods kept by union representative's management. There is no Agency directive in place requiring managers to account for official time. COHRS ELR is currently attempting to implement an Official Time tracking sheet for use by unions falling under our purview, but to date there have been no reliable methods to differentiate the category of official time used under the statute. COHRS ELR is currently involved in an Official Time invoked arbitration (Union alleges unencumbered/unfilled positions should count towards bargaining unit position grant of Local official time under Article 48 of the VA-AFGE MCBA –agency contests as no need for representation of positions that are not filled). COHRS ELR is also involved in a Step 3

Grievance in which union alleges that "as needed" stewards not provided with a union issued allocation from the OT count stemming from the bi-annual official time count the union is entitled to under Article 48 Section 10A of the VA-AFGE MCBA, should not count against their allocation. Agency contests as case law and contract are clear that absent negotiations to increase OT granted under the amount already agreed to by the Agency and exclusive representative under Art 48 of the VA-AFGE MCBA, the agency has no requirement to grant official time of that amount already deemed reasonable necessary and in the public interest under 5 USC 7131 (d).

The VA-AFGE MCBA may be found at link:

<http://www.va.gov/LMR/Agreements.asp>

Should you have further questions or concerns regarding AFGE Local 17 100% Official Time, please feel free to contact me.

Linda K. Williams

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Contact: Linda Williams
Chief, Employee/ Labor Relations & Benefits
Phone: (202) 461-5292
Email: Linda.Williams12@va.gov