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**RULE 22 – LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

- a. Passenger Engineers must request written leave of absence when they are to be off duty for more than 30 consecutive days.
- b. A written leave of absence without impairment of seniority will be granted upon request to a Passenger Engineer for the following reasons:
  - 1. To accept an official position with the Corporation or related national railroad agencies.
  - 2. To perform union committee work or to accept a full-time union position with Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.
  - 3. To accept a position as a Train Dispatcher, or to accept a recall as a Train Dispatcher. A Passenger Engineer granted a leave of absence in accordance with this subparagraph will be granted that leave for the duration of the assignment as a Train Dispatcher, and will only be able to exercise seniority under this agreement if unable to hold a regular position as a Train Dispatcher.
  - 4. To accept an elective or appointive public office for which a competitive examination is not required.
  - 5. To accept an appointive public office for which a competitive examination is required, if such public office is related to railroad work.
- c. Upon request, a Passenger Engineer will be granted a written leave of absence to perform military service in accordance with current applicable reemployment statutes.
- d. A Passenger Engineer granted a leave of absence in accordance with paragraph “b1”, “2” or “3” will be granted the leave of absence for the duration of the assignment.
- e. A request for a leave of absence for reasons other than those outlined in paragraphs “b” and “c” may be granted upon agreement between the highest appeals officer of the Corporation and the General Chairman.
- f. A request for a leave of absence or for an extension must be made in writing to the highest appeals officer of the Corporation, with a copy to the General Chairman.
- g. Except as set forth in paragraphs “c” and “d”, no leave of absence or extension thereof will exceed one year.
- h. A Passenger Engineer who fails to report for duty within 15 days after the expiration of an authorized leave of absence or an extension thereof or fails to furnish satisfactory reason for not doing so will have his seniority terminated and record closed. A Passenger Engineer whose seniority has been terminated may, through the General Chairman, appeal such termination to the highest appeals officer within 30 days of the notice of termination.
- i. A Passenger Engineer granted a leave of absence under paragraph “b1”, “2” or “3” will be required to return to duty in the craft within 60 days after being relieved of his assignment, or he will be subject to conditions set forth in paragraph “h”.

- j. A Passenger Engineer who absents himself without a written authorized leave of absence, as provided in this Rule, will have his seniority terminated.
- k. A leave of absence is not required when a Passenger Engineer is unable to perform service for the Corporation due to a bona fide sickness or injury.
- l. A Passenger Engineer on an authorized leave of absence who engages in other employment not provided for in the authorized leave of absence will forfeit all his seniority.